

Colombian drug war continues

BOGOTA (AP) — Two gunmen killed a broadcast journalist in the northern state of Cundinamarca, police said Saturday, bringing to four the number of media workers murdered in the last three days. U.S. officials, however, said three suspected drug traffickers had been extradited to the United States. A total of four suspected narcotics figures have been sent to face trial in the United States since the Colombian government cracked down on the cocaine trade, and the traffickers responded with a declaration of war on Colombian institutions. A national police spokesman said 57-year-old William Rendick Olivella, the director of a local radio news programme, was shot in the head several times Friday night in front of his home in the city of Monteria, about 300 kilometres north of Bogota. The two assassins fled on a motorcycle, the spokesman said. Rendick's El Tiempo newspaper reported that Rendick Olivella had been a "passionate" critic of the country's drug traffickers and guerrilla groups. No group claimed responsibility for the killing, but it was the latest in a series of attacks on journalists, government officials and judges blamed on drug traffickers.

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Clark urges Canadian businessmen to back Jordan's development

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

CALGARY — Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark has paid tribute to Jordan's development and progress over the years and called on his country's business community to extend support for the Kingdom's economic and industrial efforts.

"Canada's policy towards Jordan is based on a straightforward proposition; that it is in our interest to ensure that the prosperity and welfare of Jordan is safeguarded," Clark said in an address at a dinner he hosted in honour of Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor who are on a state visit to Canada.

Noting that the Middle East region had a "tragic history of... wars... bloodshed... hatred... ambition and ideological rigidity," the Canadian foreign minister said, "against this backdrop, the accomplishments of King Hussein all the more remarkable."

"Where compromise is often as a vice, he has dared to be reasonable. Where dialogue can be regarded as an admission of defeat, he has sought negotiation. And where moderation is all too rare, he has been a voice of caution and common sense," he said.

Underlining that peace "must have a sound economic and social base, not simply the balance of military forces," Clark said, "if there is to be a durable peace in the Middle East, social and economic strength will be a precondition."

"This is why King Hussein's accomplishments in Jordan are of direct interest to Canada," he said. "This is why we are so encouraged by his moderation and imagination. This is why Canadians have a common interest in a prosperous and healthy Jordan."

Praising Jordan's achievements in establishing a "framework for industrialisation — the revolution in social services, the expansion of education, the growth in transportation and agriculture" — the Canadian foreign minister referred

red to the 1986 Canadian-Jordanian cooperation agreement. He recalled that Canadian exports to Jordan had increased since then and several joint ventures were set and plans were being studied for others.

One of the main areas where Canada could help Jordan was through offering energy technology which will advance the Kingdom's efforts to reduce its dependence on imported sources, improve its balance of payments and strengthen and diversify its economy, Clark said. It has been in this vein that Canada had extended help to oil exploration efforts in Jordan, he said.

Addressing Canadian businessmen attending the dinner at Calgary, Clark said: "In this connection I encourage you all to attend the presentation planned for the last week of November in Calgary, by (Petro Canada International Assistance Cooperation — PCIAC) and the Natural Resources Authority of Jordan. It will present the results of their exciting work in the (Al) Rishah (gas) field in (Jordan). Many of you may find it of direct interest to your firms."

Clark referred to a special programme that the Canadian government has set up with Jordan. The programme, named King Hussein Scholarship and Exchange Programme, is worth one million Canadian dollars. This is in addition to another programme in management training.

"Much of the future development of Jordan will depend on private investment and successful training programmes geared to help Jordan prosper in the 21st century," he said. "This is also why we have just announced a 500,000 dollar programme to assist Jordan in graduate management training."

"I believe that Jordan will become one of the engines for economic growth in the entire Middle East region. I encourage you all to go there, see it for yourself, the opportunities are promising, the future is bright, he said.

would have to wait until talks on "technical details" of their departure were completed, which could take several days.

When East Berlin agreed Friday to provide papers for the refugees to go to a country of their choice, a Bonn government spokesman said they were expected to leave almost immediately.

East Germany's decision followed several days of talks between Warsaw, East Berlin and Bonn. A West German foreign ministry spokesman said on Saturday he did not know if the East and West German missions in Warsaw were in direct contact.

East Germany earlier this month assented to the mass exodus of over 14,000 East Germans in Bonn's Prague and Warsaw embassies to the West and even provided the trains that took them through the homeland they were abandoning.

India delays pullout of some troops from Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (Agencies) — India has postponed the withdrawal of its peacekeeping troops in eastern Sri Lanka because of a dispute over who will handle security in the violence-ravaged area, officials said Saturday.

About 5,000 Indian soldiers had been expected to leave eastern Ampara district Monday, military sources said.

But an Indian high commission, or embassy, official said the troops would remain in the district, 200 kilometres east of Colombo.

"The problem of the withdrawal from Ampara is because nothing has been sorted out about who will take over security in the district when the IPKF (Indian peacekeeping force) pulls out. Will it be the Sri Lankan army, the police or the civil volunteer



A street in Amman's Jabal Hussein area bedecked with election banners (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

Over 600 file candidacies as election campaign gets going

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Over 600 aspirants to seats in the Lower House of Parliament formally staked their claim by filing nomination papers in the various governorates Saturday, the first day of a three-day candidacy nomination period for the Nov. 8 general elections to the 80-seat House.

Simultaneous with the nomination, scores of banners were up in various parts of the capital and outlying regions, and hundreds of advertisements appeared in local newspapers, with each candidate explaining his/her platform and pledges to the electorate (see page 3).

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said a total of 602 candidates had filed their nomination papers supported by the relevant documents by Saturday evening in the various governorates. The nominees have to wait until Monday to know whether their candidacies have been accepted or not. Those rejected can appeal to the courts, which have a further three days to make a ruling. Most observers expect at least 900 nominations to be filed by Monday.

According to Petra, the numbers of candidates who registered their papers Saturday were:

Amman Governorate: 21 in the First District (three seats); 34 in the Second District (three seats);

50 in the Third District (five seats); 19 in the Fourth District (two seats); 45 in the Fifth District (five seats); 25 in the Sixth District (three seats); and 18 in the central bedouin region (two seats).

Irbid Governorate: 63 in Irbid city and suburbs (eight seats); 16 for the two seats in the Jordan Valley and Al Qurayh; 14 for the three seats in Ramtha and Bania Kanana; and 30 for the three seats in Ajloun district.

Other governorates: Zarqa — 59 (six seats); Balqa — 40 (eight seats); Mafraq — 21 (three seats); Tafleeh — 17 (three seats); Kerak — 56 (nine seats); Ma'an — 27 (five seats); and 17 for the two seats in the northern bedouin region and 13 for the two seats in the southern bedouin region.

The trend in acceptance of candidacy nominations is keenly watched by many as an indication of the government's liberalisation policy and tolerance towards political activists.

Government officials have said that the authorities would adopt a very flexible and lenient policy on the issue, and will sparingly use a particular clause in the 1986 Elections Law which bans any person affiliated with any illegal group or party from running in elections. Political parties are banned in Jordan.

"We will be as flexible as possible without violating the law," said a senior source at the Prime

Ministry. "There's no need to attach too much importance to Article 18" of the Elections Law, he said.

Though not formally acknowledged, the spectrum of candidates swings from conservative tribal leaders to Baathists, socialists, Communists, and Islamic fundamentalists and independents who profess no affiliation to any organised group or party.

The wide chasm among the various schools of thought guiding the contestants in the race to the famed Parliament House was reflected among potential candidates thronging the Amman governor's office Saturday morning. Elderly tribal leaders wearing flowing dish-dashies mingled with middle-aged hu-jassmen wearing Western-style suits and others with their distinctive Islamic-style beards in the corridors.

Independent observers said at least 12 women would have filed their nomination papers by Monday, marking the first time that the Kingdom's women are seeking Parliament seats. Although Jordanian women were granted the right to vote in 1974, no woman ever ran in the bye-elections held in 1984 and the following years to fill vacant seats in the Lower House.

"Any woman who wins this race will lay the ground for the future women's movement," Eida Mntaq, one of the candidates from Irbid, was quoted as

saying by Reuters.

There is no firm yet indication yet of the number of candidates backed by organised groups. But, Ali Hawamdeh, a leader of the fundamentalist Muslim Brotherhood and a candidate in Amman, was quoted as saying by the Associated Press that his group would support 30 candidates.

Every candidate is oozing confidence over his chances to win the race and contribute to the decision-making progress of the Kingdom. "If one is to judge by their confidence, the Lower House is likely to end up with 800 deputies instead of the available 80 seats," came the ironic observation of a journalist who has been attending almost every campaign gathering and debate.

The cynicism is shared by many, although in a different vein. "I'm not going to vote the same old faces who forget about us the minute they reach parliament," according to a concierge, identified only as Abu Ahmad by Reuters.

But there are many who are excited about the process of elections. "It feels great to have democracy back to our country under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein," said Hamad Abu Jumus, a retired army officer, in comments carried by the Associated Press. "We have been waiting for this for the past 22 years," he added.

Palestinians stage anniversary rally

KFAR MALIK, West Bank (R) — About 200 Palestinians marched through a village in the occupied West Bank Saturday vowing to fight Israel to the death, but they rapidly vanished before Israeli troops arrived. "Even if Israel kills 100 a day, we will not surrender," shouted the marchers in Kfar Malik in a parade marking the first anniversary of the killing of a village by Israeli troops. They were led by three squads of masked youths in uniforms of jeans and black jackets, stamping as they paraded through the main village street renamed in honour of Omar Al Ahsa. Ahsa was 22 when he was shot during a clash with troops, one of about 560 Arabs killed by troops in the 22-month-old uprising. An army spotter plane circled Kfar Malik as the masked youths, followed by scores of chanting, wailing women and girls, marched through streets festooned with Palestinian flags and graffiti. "For you Arafat we will give our blood," chanted the women, who ranged from teenagers in make-up and jeans to wrinkled matrons in elaborately embroidered traditional dresses. Young girls carried placards with pictures of Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, and slogans vowing that Ahsa had not died in vain.

Lebanon talks remain snagged

TAIF, Saudi Arabia (Agencies) — Christian members of Lebanon's parliament have suggested amending the plan at the centre of peace talks in Saudi Arabia to speed up the proposed withdrawal of Syrian troops, conference sources said Saturday.

The Christians want the Syrians to leave the eastern Bekaa Valley and parts of the mountains within one year of pulling back there from the rest of Lebanon, the sources said.

The draft "charter for national reconciliation" drawn up by mediators Algeria, Morocco and Saudi Arabia for parliamentary debate in the Saudi town of Taif left the Lebanese and Syrian governments to agree on how many Syrian troops would stay in the Bekaa and four how long.

The Christian deputies also suggested bringing forward the start of Syrian redeployment towards the Syrian border, the sources told Reuters.

In the charter, this would take place within two years of parliament passing political reforms increasing the power of Lebanon's Muslim majority in a system now favouring Christians.

The Christians proposed that the process should begin as soon as parliament approved only those reforms affecting the balance of power between the president, the prime minister, the cabinet and the parliament, the sources said.

Syria's military withdrawal has always been the main demand of the Christians but they have never spelt out in public exactly what timetable they would accept.

Aoun's call

Sources quoted by the AP expressed cautious optimism that the question could be resolved if Michel Aoun, the Christian milit-

ary leader, accepts an Arab League guarantee that the Syrians will withdraw their 40,000 troops from Lebanon under a two-year timetable.

In Beirut, Aoun issued a statement carried by radio stations calling on deputies meeting in Taif not to "make any commitment that would be viewed as a concession on (Lebanon's) sovereignty... the Lebanese people will have no mercy on anyone who makes concessions no matter how important he is."

Pro-Syrian Shi'ite Muslim leader Nabih Berri and Druze chief Walid Jumblatt have urged the stakes from Beirut each time Aoun's hardline Maronite Christians demanded a quicker, more specified Syrian pullout and written guarantees from Damascus.

The meeting of the 63 deputies started Sept. 30 in this western mountain resort. The deputies have announced several times that they were on the verge of a breakthrough to a new political accord, only to be frustrated by renewed demands from one side or the other.

Said one source, "they reach a consensus and then get a telephone call from Beirut, and we are back where we started."

The Muslims have concentrated on the power-sharing formula, the first of four chapters that the Arab mediators outlined.

The Druze, one of the smallest but most-armed of the 17 sects in the country, used to be considered among the Muslims. But their one deputy has been trying to up the number of the seats in parliament to give the sect a greater voice.

The parliamentarians had approved increasing the chamber's seats to 108, giving the additional ones to Muslims to ensure equal representation in the unilateral house.

PLO tightlipped after consultations in Cairo

CAIRO (Agencies) — Two Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leaders held talks with Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid Saturday after the United States put forward a five-point formula to bridge the gap on proposed Israeli-Palestinian talks.

Mahmoud Abbas and Yasser Abed Rabbo, both members of the PLO Executive Committee, said the 90-minute meeting covered all issues but would not be more specific.

Asked if they discussed U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's points for Israeli-Palestinian talks on possible Palestinian elections in the Israeli-occupied territories, Abbas replied only: "We had a detailed, clear and frank talk with Foreign Minister Abdul Meguid."

Abdul Meguid told reporters the meeting had been important and consultations with the PLO would continue.

Abed Rabbo said that only the PLO, as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinians,

could decide the composition of any delegation for talks with Israel.

He said any dialogue must be unconditional and move towards convening an international conference on the Middle East.

Israel has rejected an Egyptian offer to host face-to-face talks between Palestinians and Israel, saying it would not deal directly or indirectly with the PLO.

One of Baker's points proposed that Israel should attend such talks after a satisfactory list of Palestinian delegates had been worked out. Israel would consult the United States and Egypt on this.

Abbas said they had come to Egypt with a group of questions but were not authorised to discuss any point or any issue.

He and Abed Rabbo, who heads a PLO team in talks with the United States, both refused to elaborate.

Abbas said they would now go to Baghdad for a meeting of the PLO's 108-member Central Council on Sunday.

Syria says MiG-23 pilot was Israeli spy

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria said Saturday that a Syrian air force pilot who landed his MiG-23 fighter in Israel Wednesday was an Israeli spy.

A military statement said the pilot, whom it named as Bassam Al Adel, deceived Syrian frontline monitoring stations to fly to Israel by pretending that his plane had a mechanical fault.

It said he "sold himself and his weapon to the enemy at the end of a spying mission led by Israeli intelligence which mobilised this agent to smuggle a plane of our air force to hand it to the Israeli enemy."

The pilot, identified in Israel as Major Mohammad Bassam Adel, told a news conference near Tel Aviv Friday that he had defected but the Israelis had no prior knowledge he was coming.

The Syrian statement said he suggested by his movements that his plane had a technical fault when he changed direction to-

wards Israel. "Following checks it was proved that traitor Bassam Al Adel who fled with a MiG-23 on 11.10.1989 when he was on a training flight on the edge of the ceasefire frontline deceived front monitoring points," it said.

A senior Syrian official said earlier the MiG-23 made an emergency landing in Israel after developing a mechanical fault and Damascus had asked the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to arrange the return of the pilot.

Saturday's statement said Adel had "betrayed his nation and people by spying against them by giving the enemy the weapon which is utilised to defend the nation...."

It added: "The spirit of pride and honour in which the people and army live in Syria makes us look to such bad people with unlimited scorn...."

Qadhafi, Mubarak meet in Egypt today

CAIRO (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi will visit Egypt Sunday for the first time in 16 years and hold talks with President Hosni Mubarak, Egyptian presidential sources said Friday.

They said Qadhafi would pay a 24-hour visit to Mersa Metruh, a resort on the Mediterranean about 500 kilometres north west of Cairo.

Relations between Egypt and Libya have been erratic since Qadhafi seized power in a bloodless coup 20 years ago and he has not been to Egypt since the closing stages of the 1973 Arab-Israeli war.

Egypt has in the past accused Libya of sabotage attempts and of sending hit-squads to Egypt to kill Libyan exiles. The two countries fought a brief border war in 1977.

But a breakthrough came in Casablanca, Morocco, last May when Mubarak and Qadhafi met during an Arab League summit.



Hosni Mubarak



Muammar Qadhafi

Diplomats said they believed the final catalyst for Sunday's reconciliation talks between the two leaders was the release by Libya Thursday of two Egyptian fishing boats and their crews, seized last August.

Qadhafi held Egyptian leader Gamal Abdul Nasser in high esteem, but relations started to crumble after Anwar Sadat succeeded Nasser in 1970. An attempt at unifying the two states fell apart in a matter of months.

Qadhafi strongly criticised Sadat's handling of the October 1973 war against Israel and staunchly opposed Sadat's peace negotiations with Israel, culmi-

Libya has also pledged to pay compensation for thousands of Egyptian workers expelled from Libya in 1985.

In Mersa Metruh, sandwiched between the turquoise Mediterranean and the pink sand dunes of the western desert, a city official said street sweepers had been ordered to clean the town.

He said officials had not yet been told formally that Qadhafi was coming, "but we are cleaning the place up just in case."

Diplomats quoted by Reuters said one likely summit venue was the isolated presidential residence at Ras Al Hekma, about 50 kilometres east of Mersa Metruh.

Security was an important factor, and it was underlined Saturday by a Qatari newspaper that predicted a new U.S. attack on Libya following media reports that Tripoli was developing long-range missiles.

Britain's Sunday Correspondent newspaper last week reported that 100 West Germans were taking part in a project to develop ground-to-ground missiles with a 720-kilometre range.

The United States, accusing Libya of "terrorist" action against U.S. targets, bombed military bases, airports and government buildings in Tripoli and Benghazi in April, 1986.



Two opposition militiamen cover a Soviet-made B-10 cannon at Beirut's western part as ceasefire holds throughout the area surrounding the Falangist enclave.

Normal life is still a distant dream in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — A three-week-old ceasefire has reinvigorated Beirut, but normal life remains a distant dream to the war-weary Lebanese.

"It is true that shelling has stopped, but only two hours of electricity a day, three hours of drinking water a week and having to queue up for an hour to get bread doesn't make it a better life," housewife Amal Khodor said Friday.

An Arab League-sponsored ceasefire on Sept. 23 halted six months of fierce battles between Falangist troops and Syrian and opposition forces.

The latest round of violence, including the biggest bombardments of Lebanon's 14-year civil war, had by then killed some 850 people, forced hundreds of thousands to flee and caused material damage estimated at \$1 billion.

Lebanese deputies are holding peace talks in the Saudi Arabian resort of Taif as part of the Arab peace plan.

The news from Taif is closely followed by the Lebanese as nearly all local newspapers and radio stations have sent correspondents to the Gulf state.

"There is nothing comforting in the political situation," said Ibrahim Khordaji, "What is going on at Taif is just talk. We want something tangible here on the ground."

Khordaji, who owns a shop near the American University of Beirut, said he was not going to repair the shell-holes and broken glass in his shop.

"I paid \$4,000 for repairs after the last round. I am not willing to pay another cent now. It's not worth it," he said.

Abdul Kader Ayad, who owns a cosmetic shop in west Beirut's once-rivvy Hamra District, said business was slow.

"People prefer not to spend money on goods which aren't essential. The war has forced them to spend their savings to escape Beirut's hell or repair the damage," Ayad said.

Construction is nevertheless among the few industries which picked up quickly after the truce. Builders have returned to work on unfinished buildings and repair battle damage.

"New construction plans are still at a low. Demand for new houses has sharply declined," said Mohammad Itani, an engineer.

"It seems like no one is willing to buy new apartments before they have a clearer idea about Lebanon's future."

One can hardly blame them. The precariousness of Lebanese life was demonstrated in the north east town of Baalbeck Friday when a dispute between two residents touched off a battle of rocket grenades and machinegun fire.

A stray rocket hit a house where a wedding was being celebrated, killing three women guests and transforming the party into a wake.

Many of the hundreds of thousands of people who fled Beirut to other areas in Lebanon or travelled abroad have returned to their homes since the ceasefire.

Flights of the Middle East Airlines, Lebanon's national carrier, are heavily booked to and from Beirut airport. Officials said the airline carried 11,162 passengers back to Lebanon in less than three weeks.

But many are also leaving. Some 8,487 people were flown out of Beirut on MEA during the same period.

"I just came back to take my family. I have arranged for an emigration visa to Canada and plan to move there very soon," said a businessman who declined to be named.

"At least over there we can plan for tomorrow, there is running water and the children can watch television," he said.

But a source close to Ozal told Reuters Friday: "If someone tells me he knows what the prime minister is going to do, he is lying."

Ozal would be almost sure to win the presidency, which carries some executive powers, as Motherland has 269 members in the 450-seat parliament. Celikbas said he was backed by 30 liberal Motherland legislators.

Opposition parties, pointing to a drop in public support for Ozal because of rising inflation and other economic problems, say they will boycott the secret vote if Ozal runs and will not recognise him if he wins.

The source close to Ozal said he might nominate parliamentary speaker Yildirim Akbulut or deputy prime minister Ali Bozer as a compromise candidate.

The winner will succeed Kenan Evren, whose seven-year term is up.

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Iranian aide to visit France

PARIS (R) — Iran and France, at loggerheads for years over terrorism and a commercial dispute involving billions of dollars, will hold high-level talks at the end of October in Paris, officials have said.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmood Vaezi and France's senior Paris-based diplomat, Francois Scheer, will head the delegations. The dates of the meetings, aimed at repairing relations, have not been announced.

Apart from tensions between Tehran and Western nations since the 1979 Iranian revolution, disputes over the detention of a Lebanese gunman and the repayment of an Iranian loan have poisoned bilateral links.

Iran has pressured France to release Anis Naccache, who was jailed for life for killing two people in 1980 during a failed assassination attempt in Paris against Shapur Bakhtiar, the Shah of Iran's last prime minister.

Tehran is also pushing for settlement of a one billion dollar loan made by the Shah in 1974 to the French consortium Eurodif. France has repaid \$630 million but Tehran says \$2 billion in capital and interest are outstanding.

France claims its companies suffered losses totalling \$2 billion when contracts were revoked by the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini after the revolution.

The ground for the Paris talks was prepared when Scheer, secretary-general at the French Foreign Ministry, visited Tehran on Sept. 17-18.

He met Vaezi and Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, who said Iran wanted closer ties with France but that the Eurodif dispute was a major obstacle.

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Denktash thinks Cyprus likely to remain split

WASHINGTON (R) — Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash, in Washington for his first high-level meetings with American diplomats in many years, has said Cyprus was likely to remain divided for years to come.

In a brief interview after talking to a National Press Club breakfast, Denktash was asked if the status quo on Cyprus was likely to continue for years.

He said it was and added: "But we have to work with it, because it's the only way."

In 1983, Denktash declared the establishment of the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" on the northern third of the eastern Mediterranean island, and no high-level American diplomat has met with him since.

But since last year Denktash and Cyprus President George Vassiliou have met with each other for more than 100 hours, and with United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, in an effort to reunify Cyprus.

Vassiliou, a Greek Cypriot, was in Washington last week for meetings with President Bush, Secretary of State James Baker and Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger.

The State Department said Eagleburger had invited Denktash to an informal lunch as leader of the Turkish Cypriot community and this did not imply any recognition of his self-declared state.

"We believe his meetings in Washington are fully in keeping with our desire to be of assistance to the inter-communal negotiating process on Cyprus through which we hope a lasting peaceful solution emerges," said State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler.

The most dramatic setback in peace efforts came as the result of a demonstration by 1,000 Greek Cypriots on July 19 who stormed the green line separating the island.

Since that time, the developing agreement has unravelled. Denktash, who had proposed a federation between the Greeks and Cypriots, has been talking recently about a looser confederation.

Under the looser proposal, his Turkish country would have to be recognised as an independent entity. The only country that now recognises his republic is Turkey.

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New Sudanese peace talks to be held soon

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudan's junta leader Omar Hassan Al-Bashir said a second round of talks with southern rebels is expected to start after a current government-organised peace conference ends later this month, an official daily paper has reported.

Al-Guwait Al-Musalahah quoted Bashir as saying "contacts will be made with the rebels at the end of the conference to convene peace talks."

A peace committee, led by Col. Mohammed Al Amin Khalfi, met with representatives of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army last August in Addis Ababa.

Khalfi is also heading a peace conference in the capital, Khartoum, scheduled to end Oct. 18. It will recommend to the government a strategy for an end to the six-year civil war in the south.

For its part, SPLA leader John Garang has designed a peace plan that includes formation of a broad-based government, creation of a new army comprising existing troops and the guerrillas, the convening of a constitutional conference and the holding of general elections.

The SPLA took up arms in 1983 against the Muslim-dominated government in the north, demanding social and economic reforms for the mainly Christian and animist south.

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Iraq denies Kurdish rebel report of clashes

BAGHDAD (R) — A senior Iraqi official Saturday denied a report by a Kurdish rebel group that government troops clashed with guerrillas near the Iranian border last week.

The official at the Culture and Information Ministry told Reuters that all Kurdish areas "are quiet and have not witnessed any clashes over the past weeks."

He refuted a statement made last week by the Iraqi Kurdistan Front that its fighters beat back government attacks on Oct. 4 and 5 in the Sader and Jakoj Mountains east of Qala Diza.

"On the contrary, the autonomous region of Kurdistan, including the border areas, is undergoing reconstruction to rebuild all the areas destroyed by the (eight-year) war with Iran," the official said.

The anti-Baghdad government front's statement, issued in the Syrian capital Damascus, said other clashes took place late last month.

The rebels are fighting for more autonomy for Iraq's three million Kurds.

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U.N. chief hopes for further Morocco-Polisario meetings

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has said he hoped for further meetings like one last January between King Hassan II of Morocco and representatives of the Polisario Front since they could help settle the Western Sahara problem.

Polisario spokesmen have accused Rabat of repeatedly postponing another meeting, and heavy fighting this month ended a year-long lull during which Polisario proclaimed a unilateral truce in its guerrilla war against Morocco's control of Western Sahara.

The secretary general's comments came in a written report on efforts to implement an agreement in principle by the two sides in August 1988 for a U.N.-sponsored referendum in the former Spanish territory, ruled by Morocco since 1976.

Perez de Cuellar, who is working in the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) currently headed by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, referred in his report to a number of significant developments in the past year.

He said: "The second development related to the occasion when King Hassan II received representatives of the Frente Polisario. It is the hope of the secretary general and of the current chairman of the OAU that there will be further meetings of this nature as they could improve prospects for the success of the peace process."

Other developments listed in the report were the appointment of a special U.N. representative for Western Sahara, Hector Gros Espiell, the establishment of a U.N. technical commission and progress in processing data from a 1974 Spanish census to help prepare a voters' list for the territory.

The secretary general said the parties expressed a number of concerns that needed to be addressed before the 1988 agreement could be implemented.

"In the case of Morocco, a major concern relates to the question of security and peace in the territory during the referendum. In the case of the Frente Polisario, assurances are being sought for the creation of conditions which, in its view, are necessary for a free and fair election."

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Turkey arms tribes to fight Kurdish rebels

VAN, Turkey (R) — The government is to arm some 100 tribes in south east Turkey to help fight an escalating Kurdish insurgency, officials and tribal lords said.

They said the army in September offered weapons to Kurdish tribes in mountainous Van province, which until this year was largely unscathed by the Marxist Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) rebellion.

"They (the tribes) asked us for weapons and we agreed to give them," Van Governor Adnan Darendeliler told Reuters. He estimated 2,000 to 3,000 rifles would be handed out soon.

The ages (lords) of more than 15 tribes in the Van area bordering Iran have traditionally supported Ankara against the PKK, whose leftist ideology they fear.

Other sources said depopulation of mountain areas, where many tribesmen live and the PKK is active, would speed up if fighting worsened.

"People just want to live in peace, not to have guns and have to fight the PKK," said Yavuz Binbay, head of the Van branch of Turkey's Human Rights Association.

The government earlier set up a militia of village guards, but this apparently collapsed. Security sources said guards' wives and children were attacked by the rebels.

Darendeliler said the tribes would now be organised into fighting units under army officers.

But tribal sources said they doubted this would be effective in the more than 1,200 remote hamlets on barren mountainsides.

Kaya Oner, age of the 15,000-strong Sidi tribe, said he was one of the few tribal leaders not to accept the government offer of guns, which he said was also made to agas in the Iranian border areas of Baskale and Hak-kari.

Ten days after Oner announced his decision, his brother Nedim was killed by troops in a raid on Bespamak village.

"The day after they killed him they came again and an army officer told us: 'Either you take the guns or you are with the PKK and we will kill you,' a villager said."

He pointed out the car, riddled with more than 50 bullet holes, in which Nedim was killed.

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Algerian journalists to set up independent union

ALGIERS (R) — Several hundred Algerian journalists met Friday to organise the country's first independent journalists' union and push for greater press freedom.

The two-day conference of the Algerian journalists' movement is the latest challenge to a 27-year monopoly by the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) over political and professional life.

"The respect of the citizen's right to information requires a socio-professional organisation of journalists that is independent, pluralistic, democratic and unified," said a working paper presented to the conference.

Algeria is in the throes of a transformation to multi-party democracy spurred on by youth riots a year ago.

The journalists' group, known by its French initials MJA, has functioned informally for about 18 months with newsmen deserting in mass their official FLN-linked union.

It is one of the first independent trade unions to establish an organisational structure.

A picture of Sid Ali Benmehiche, a journalist from the national news agency AFS killed by the army while covering the 1988 riots, hung at the entrance of the meeting hall.

ELECTIONS '89

By Narmeen Murad

A COUPLE of hours before midnight Friday night a new phenomenon started creeping into the streets of the capital. The few cars which happened to pass, unaware, in the streets of Amman, screamed and stopped still in front of something new, the banners of the elections.

While some banners, dealt with the purpose without introductions, "elect... so and so," perhaps indicating that Jordan still attaches everything to the name behind it, other banners carried grievances, promises and many carried idealistic dreams.

At eleven o'clock Friday night a lone candidate, striving to spread his message across the streets of downtown Amman before it is swarmed with the other views, was grappling with a policeman who insisted that the candidate wait until the hour of midnight.

Laith Shablat, a candidate from Amman's Third District, stood alone with the policeman with an overbearing background of huge banners already erected, and tried to reach a compromise with the policeman.

But, according to the policeman "the law is the law and we will bring down those other banners," the officer told the Jordan Times.

"Cancel martial law and emergency laws first," a very courageous banner confronted drivers at the entrance of downtown Amman.

This banner was immediately mellowed out by one of those "elect so and so," banners, but this time the candidate added three little words below the candidate's very large name, "dignity of our homeland, pride of our homeland, national unity."

One candidate complained that "parliament representation is a duty not an honour," in one banner, in another street in the same district, the same candidate said "the practice of parliament representation in a responsible manner protects democracy and freedom."

"The parliament members of the nation are its mirror, but this mirror has to remain clean and pure," a banner said, preceded another which stressed that "trying candidates responsible for corruption is a national duty."

Islamic banners, maintained that "Islam is the solution" and that the "implementation of the Islamic Sharia Laws and rule by Islam is one of our demands." Some even called for "saving future generations through the Koran and preparing them for Jihad." But Saturday was the first day of the elections campaign and there are many views which will still climb the electricity poles in the Kingdom to present newer angles, and fresher views, but all will fall in the same handwagon — hoping to get to the domed Parliament House.

A leaflet which was apparently distributed in Madaba found its way to a candidate in the capital Saturday night, this leaflet touched on a national concern to achieve a personal gain.

The leaflet, which carried a cartoon of a candidate in Madaba, asked the citizens whether they wanted to fight corruption and bribery and then proceeded to express a personal opinion about the candidate depicted in the cartoon. Many citizens who saw this leaflet do not condemn it and think that "it is a cheap shot, and a trick by a loser."

A candidate in Aqaba, however, is distributing his election campaign leaflet accompanied by a small sum of money to entice voters to put their votes where their money is. This is where awareness among voters and national honesty will have to rule.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

NEW FINANCIAL DIRECTOR AT RSS: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, has endorsed the appointment of Kamal Ahmad Al Khatib as director of the Financial Department at the Royal Scientific Society. (J.T.)

CONDOLENCES: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday delegated Royal Court Secretary General Munir Al Durra to convey his condolences to Al Shakhshir family on the death of Radi Shukri Al Shakhshir. (Petra)

ITALIAN PHOTO EXHIBITION: Under the patronage of Minister of Information and Culture and in cooperation with the Royal Cultural Centre the Italian embassy is holding a photo exhibition from Oct. 17 till Oct. 21 at the Exhibition Hall of the Royal Cultural Centre. The exhibition will open daily from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. (J.T.)

KHAYAT RETURNS FROM CAIRO: Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Khayat Saturday returned home from Cairo after taking part in the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries' celebrations marking Prophet Mohammad's Birthday anniversary which took place at Al Azhar University. Khayat Friday discussed with his Egyptian counterpart Dr. Mohammad Mahjoub bilateral relations and Jordan's need for mosque preachers. (Petra)

KHLEIFAT LEAVES FOR EGYPT: Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat Saturday left for Cairo to participate in the meetings of the Arab Youth Council scheduled to convene Monday. The two-day meetings will deal with a number of youth and sporting issues. Several agreements will be signed on exchange of experts and expertise to develop youth and sporting cadres in the Arab countries. (Petra)

HAMDAN RECEIVES IRAQI ENVOY: Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and Environment Youssef Hamdan discussed with Iraq's Ambassador to Jordan Nouri Isma'il means to consolidate bilateral relations in the fields of self-rule as well as projects of municipal councils and environment. (Petra)

SAKET HOLDS TALKS WITH AEU TEAM: Minister of Agriculture Bassam Al Saket Saturday met with a delegation representing the Agricultural Exporters Union (AEU) and discussed with them matters related to exporting fruits and vegetables and procedures that can encourage the Jordanian exports to foreign markets. (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An exhibition marking the 1st centennial of the Eiffel Tower displaying photographs, drawings and pictures demonstrating the tower in all its aspects at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Omar Boudal at Alla Art Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition by Fouad Mami and 'Amman Khamash at Abdel Hamid Shounan Foundation's Scientific and Cultural Centre.

LECTURE

- ★ A lecture, in Arabic, by Dr. Jamal Al Sha'er entitled: "Parliamentary Life: Britain and Jordan" at the British Council — 7:00 p.m.

FILM

- ★ A feature film entitled "Cocoon" at the American Centre — 7:30 p.m.
- ★ An exhibition of Islamic books at the Yarmouk University.
- ★ An exhibition of Omani photographs and costumes at the Yarmouk University.



Secretary General of the Higher Council for Science and Technology Dr. Abdullah Touqan opens the regional conference on use of laser in science and technology at the University of Jordan.

Conference begins on use of laser in science, technology

AMMAN (Petra) — Delegates representing 15 Jordanian organisations and 20 Arab and foreign countries gathered in Amman Saturday for a conference on lasers in science and technology which opened at the University of Jordan under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent.

The participants will review working papers and listen to lectures focusing on the use of laser beams in industry, medicine and agriculture, according to Dr. Riad Bitar, chairman of a committee which prepared for the meeting.

Part of the conference, he said, will be dedicated to a seminar dealing with international cooperation in scientific research and the prospect of establishing a specialised centre for laser applications.

Bitar who was among the speakers at the opening session said that the committee hopes to encourage universities and scientific institutions to play a bigger role in applied sciences, especially in areas where production of various commodities can be increased.

"The conference is bound to boost efforts of various institutions in the fields of physics, chemistry, biological science, engineering, medicine and agriculture," Bitar added.

Dr. Abdullah Touqan, secretary general of the Higher Council for Science and Technology who deputised for Prince Hassan, delivered the opening speech, noting that the great number of participants and the nature of institutions they represent reflect the importance they attach on the conference and its outcome.

"It is hoped that the conference will act as one more link in the course of encouraging researchers in modern technology and the use of lasers," Touqan noted.

Touqan made a general review of the development of laser technology over the past 30 years and noted the heavy competition between the United States, Japan and Europe in developing stronger laser equipment for more effective use in different areas.

The conference, Touqan noted, offers a good chance for Arab and foreign specialists to exchange information and ideas about lasers and their use, and is

bound to enhance the Arab World's drive to benefit from the use of laser at all levels.

"Jordan realised the importance of science and technology in its economic development plans and established a national committee to take charge of the national policy on science and technology," Touqan pointed out.

He said that since its establishment in 1986, the committee has been proposing ideas and helping to work out the Kingdom's plans in science and technology, and later set up the Higher Council for Science and Technology to lay the basis for a strong foundation to boost the country's socio-economic and cultural development plans.

A total of 200 delegates are taking part in the six-day conference, half of whom come from Jordan, according to the organisers.

They said that one of the main Jordanian papers, submitted by Minister of Education Adnan Badran, deals with the situation at the Jordanian universities research centres.

Ministry to start construction of pilgrims' education centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, a ceremony, organised by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, for laying the foundation stone of the pilgrims' education centre, will be held Sunday at Al Nuzha District of Amman.

The centre aims to provide education to the pilgrims on the pilgrimage to the holy places and

provide information about the performance of the annual rite, according to Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Secretary General Ahmad Hilayel.

Hilayel said that the centre will present documentary films, and slide shows in the course of providing information about the pilgrimage rites in Mecca.

Meanwhile, Iraqi Ministry of Awqaf's under-secretary Moham-

mad Al Sharif arrived here Saturday at the head of a delegation on a visit to Jordan expected to last several days.

He will hold talks with senior officials from the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs on means of bolstering bilateral cooperation in religious affairs.

Discussion will also centre on the implementation of an Iraqi-Jordanian religious agreement.

Seminar opens on diseases common to man and animal in Arab World

AMMAN (Petra) — The Third seminar on diseases common to man and animal, and parasites affecting people in the Arab World will open at the Farah Rehabilitation Centre at Al Hussein Medical Centre Tuesday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan the Regent.

According to Dr. Youssef Omesh, chairman of a committee preparing for the coming meeting, scientists and specialists from 20 Arab countries and several specialised world orga-

nisations will take part in the meeting which will be organised by the Higher Council for Science and Technology.

Omesh said that the meeting aims to follow up and encourage studies on diseases common to man and animal in the Arab World, and research designed to protect public health.

The participants will review research papers and will discuss experiments on this subject and will study problems and causes related to the common diseases.

Omesh added.

The participants are also expected to discuss the prospect of setting up a pan-Arab centre for research and studies in this field, to be based in Amman.

The effect of common diseases on man and the environment, and the general economy will be among the topics to be discussed, Omesh pointed out.

In addition, he said, the three-day meeting will look into such diseases as bilharzia, malaria and rabies and means of protecting people from such diseases.

Jordan to be base for regional environment information centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment is now establishing a regional environment information centre in Jordan while pursuing efforts to prepare a national environment strategy designed to provide protection from pollution and to prepare the ground for safeguarding natural resources in the Kingdom, Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Youssef Hamdan said Saturday.

A national strategy is bound to take into consideration means of protecting the environment during the implementation of economic projects in the country, Hamdan said in a statement marking the Arab Environment Day.

The minister said that the environment is "one of the most important issues in our day, not only for Jordan but also for the rest of the world and measures are being taken worldwide to protect natural resources and the Earth's atmosphere."

Hamdan referred to His Majesty King Hussein's address to a United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) which convened lately in Jordan in which he stressed the relationship between man and his environment and dwelt on matters related to man's future on the planet Earth.

He said that threats posed to the environment in any part of the world are directed against the environment of the whole Earth and could be detrimental to life of all people.

"Mankind, ought to take measures to reduce the danger and end all forms of pollution and also end all threat to the ozone layer which protects the Earth, he added.

Hamdan announced that Jordan will delay all activities related to the Arab Environment Day until the end of the parliamentary elections due to be held on Nov. 8.

"This decision was taken," he said, "in order to ensure participation in such activities for the protection of the environment by all Jordanian citizens."

The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, the minister pointed out, has worked out a set of programmes which will be carried out in all regions of the country.

The world and "it is impossible for a government to take action without help from the citizens in all ways designed to provide protection for the general environment," the minister said.

Jordan, Hamdan added, is cooperating with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) through the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature in implementing its national strategy, to control its water resources and provide protection to natural resources.

According to ministry sources, the national strategy is being implemented in cooperation with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources which helped to provide the Kingdom with more than \$300,000 from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The strategy, according to the sources, entails combating desert encroachment over arable land, dealing with industrial pollution, spreading public awareness and educating the public the means of protecting the environment.

Once the strategy has been completed, appropriate laws will be issued to be put into force in 1990, the minister said.

Earlier, the ministry of municipal and rural affairs set up a higher steering committee to prepare for the national strategy.

Ministry seeks to expand law on economic crimes

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Ministry of Justice is conducting studies on existing Jordanian legislation on economic crimes with a view to encompassing such offences as mismanagement and misallocation of funds, according to Minister of Justice Rateb Al Wazani.

"The present laws do not cover all economic crimes, and some of the legislation are loose-knit," said Wazani in an interview with the Jordan Times. "We intend to tighten the present legislation and come out with a new set of legislation that would cover such crimes as mismanagement and misallocation of funds by government and semi-government officials," he said.

The minister said His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan had taken special interest in the issue, and had forwarded with papers and studies on economic crimes and legislation to the Ministry of Justice to help its task, the minister said, gesturing to a thick pile of papers on his desk.

In addition, an Italian expert has been delegated by the European Community (EC) to the Ministry of Justice on Jordanian request to help authorities with in-depth assessment of an information on economic crimes, Wazani said.

Most of the Jordanian penal code is drawn from British laws, as is the case with many countries which had been under British colonial rule. In light of this, said the minister, the authorities are also considering the possibilities of benefiting from existing British legislation and helping the process of updating and modernising Jordanian laws governing economic crimes.

To most people, the term "economic crimes" has an inseparable linkage with corruption and bribery, experts point out. But, as explained by the minister, people in responsible government positions can also be held accountable for mismanagement and abuse of their authorities in allocating government funds.

The minister's disclosure comes at a time when "corruption" appears to have assumed a key slot in the run-up to the Nov. 8 elections and figures high in many candidates' campaign platforms. Wazani did not specify any time-frame for the envisaged new legislation.

However, he said, the new set of laws will not be retroactive, since such retroactivity will be in violation of the Jordanian constitution. "They will be applicable only to crimes committed after the legislation has been enacted," he said.

At the same time, he said, the statute of crimes, whether economic or otherwise, is 10 years. In essence, it means that if anyone committing a crime under existing

legislation can be held accountable within 10 years from the date of the crime.

No immunity from prosecution

Wazani noted that no one, including government employees of any stature or position, was immune from prosecution under regular procedures, whether in criminal or civil cases, except members of parliament and cabinet ministers. "It is very simple," he said. "A plaintiff does not need permission to claim his rights in civil cases against one, whether government servant or otherwise," he pointed out.

But, the situation is a little different, though fundamentals do not change, in cases where the defendant is a member of parliament or a cabinet minister. In the case of a member of parliament, the court needs permission from parliament — in effecting a lifting of the immunity — before he or she could be tried. Again, this applies only when parliament is in session. When it is not, then any member of parliament could be taken to court without immunity with as much privileges, rights, responsibilities and obligations as any citizen of the country, Wazani said.

In case of a cabinet minister being sued, the court requires permission from the Council of Ministers before he or she could be tried, he said. Along the same lines, a judge can be prosecuted after obtaining permission from the Judiciary Council, he added.

Lengthy procedures

One of the oft-heard complaints from the public is over the lengthy procedures before hearing and trials could begin. Wazani said the Ministry of Justice was acutely aware of the situation, and was planning to include amendments to existing procedures with a view to simplifying summons and court procedures.

"We are studying the existing procedures and the experiences of other countries can benefit us," said Wazani. "For example, Iraq recently enacted a legislation setting deadlines for cases, and obliging the courts to finish the cases within a specified time-frame. So, now a case that would usually take years to settle is finished in a matter of months," he said.

The minister conceded that cases in Jordan, particularly Amman and Zarqa — the most populous cities in the Kingdom —



Rateb Al Wazani

sometimes take one to three years. He said one of the reasons was the absence of proper street names and addresses which impeded the process of serving legal notices or summons.

"Furthermore, most people do not turn up in court in response to the first summons, and police action becomes inevitable," he said. "Also, some lawyers appear to think that it will be in the interest of their clients if the court procedures are delayed; even some judges find it easier to postpone hearings."

Statistics from the Ministry of Justice show that 10,394 civil cases were pending in courts at the end of 1987, and 10,318 in 1988. The number of unfinished criminal cases stood at 13,197 and 107 in 1988.

Financial disputes

In addition, many of the pending cases involve financial disputes, particularly in light of the economic hardships brought in by the difficult economic situation in the country, Wazani said. "There are many outstanding debts and the creditors have sought legal action."

"Bounced cheques are also another problem which requires legal procedures when the court is approached by the aggrieved party," he said.

One of the ways out of this situation, according to Wazani, is debt collection agencies as is the case with many Western countries. "Such organisations reduce pressure on the judicial system and functionaries," the minister said. "It also shortens the process of collecting the citizens' rights, and prevents people from continuing to avoid payments of debts."

The minister said he was seriously considering ways to arrange regulations that allow private debt collection agencies. However, he noted, there are no existing legislation that prevent such organisations from operating in Jordan. "People can obtain a licence from the Ministry of Industry and Trade and register an agency like any other company or establishment," he pointed out.

Election time — good tidings for all

By Suhair Obaidat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — With the official launch Saturday of campaigning by candidates in the Nov. 8 parliamentary elections, Jordanian newspapers appeared emboldened with election advertisements by about 66 candidates, each vying for the voters' attention.

Some appealed to the voters' sense of national duty towards the country. One of the catchy ads asked the voters to elect those best fit for "such a responsibility... since we live in a country whose existence and borders are threatened."

A front-page ad, coloured no less, simply asked for the people's votes without giving them any reason as to why they should do so. Other, poorer, aspirants advertising in the inside pages said they were running for the prestigious parliamentary seat because of popular demand.

"It must be very hard being so popular," commented a reader. Other more pious advertisements quoted verses of the Koran and/or the sayings of the Prophet Mohammad, with carefully chosen words that warned

"against cheating" and reminded both candidates and voters of the "last day of judgement."

"I hope they heed these words," said an avid election observer.

The main themes running through the ads included democracy, national unity and support for the Palestinian uprising.

"Supporting the children of the stones is a holy duty that voters can fulfil by exercising their right to vote," said one of the ads with an overdose of confidence.

"What is important," one observer said, "is not the issues everyone agrees about, such as democracy and the intifada, but the issues which distinguish one candidate from the other."

"I hope we see more than this type of shallow campaign by the candidates in the next three weeks," he added.

A review of the ads showed that most of the candidates stressed the unity between the Jordanians and Palestinians. A lone candidate, aside from demanding support for the Palestinians, endorsed the call for "an independent Palestinian state."

Although candidates have

three days to file registration papers, and officials then have three days to reject those not qualified, most candidates are not only sure that the government will accept them but also that they will win a seat in the Lower House of Parliament.

This risk is not as inexpensive as one might think; for advertisement rates in the local newspapers has jumped as much as 50 per cent. Newspapers are hoping there will be an election every year. A source in one of the local newspapers said that the newspaper he works for "is expecting to make a lot of money but it is very hard to guess."

The tricky point is that the newspapers did not officially say that they are raising prices of election ads, but instead said that they will be handled as news-ads that are common in the papers for which advertisers pay one and half times the price of regular ads.

"We have so many ads, its incredible," said the source who insisted on anonymity for obvious reasons. "Many of these ads have been reserved weeks in advance."

NHF attends meeting of Arab Club for Resources Development in U.K.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) Saturday took part in the first constituent meeting of the Arab Social Club for Resources Development which was held in London.

A NHF statement here said that the projected club, which is affiliated to the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), will seek to offer assistance in the course of implementing programmes and social projects in the Arab World.

The meeting is also designed to discuss coordination among various

countries on human resources development and motherhood care. The projected club is also designed to create a group of representatives from the public and private sectors who can pool their efforts to promote development programmes conducted by non-governmental organisations within the Arab World, according to the statement.

It said that the first constituent assembly in London will sound out areas where the IPPF can implement programmes and pro-

jects within the Arab World and will discuss a draft constitution and a statute that would define strategies and objectives.

According to the statement the IPPF, which was founded in 1952 at general meeting held in the Indian city of Bombay, groups 105 societies and carried out its activities in more than 130 nations around the World.

In addition to the Arab World, the IPPF groups the African region, the South East Asia and Oceania regions, Europe, the Indian Ocean region.

Jordan Times

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Editorial Director:
RAKAN AL MAJALI

Director General:
DR. RADI AL WAQFI

Editor-in-Chief:
DR. WALEED M. SADI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366

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Slogans notwithstanding

ONE QUICK glance at the proliferating candidates' programmes (or let us say slogans) that surfaced on the first day of the elections campaign would suggest that candidates are generally in agreement on most issues. They all seem to seek the same objectives ranging from the call for general freedoms to the establishment of political rights. Of course the call for national unity and support for the Palestinian intifada figures high on the platforms of the majority of the contestants. There are also those who are more specific than others in spelling out their conception of the political freedoms they seek by calling for the lifting of martial laws and emergency regimes and for consolidating equality among Jordanians in all contexts. So on the basis of declared intentions, there are hardly much differences between the candidates with the exception of the "fundamentalists" whose call for strict adherence to Islam as the only way for salvation and victory is more accentuated and more pronounced.

How then will voters make choices among the numerous candidates' appears to be more related to personal relations and convictions as well as assessment of the characters of the candidates than to their banners in public places and advertisements in daily journals. Surely, Jordanian voters are not so naive as to believe that all candidates have the conviction of their words and truly intend to stand by all their promises or that they would work faithfully to realise them once they have secured a place in Parliament.

Nevertheless, a closer reading of the political scene would reveal that whereas many of the people exercising their right to vote want a working parliament without rocking the boat too much, there is a sizable number of voters who seek to rock the boat sufficiently enough to attract attention and concern for grievances and aspirations, be they economic or religious. That the Jordanian body politic is sufficiently divided to make the anticipation of the results of the Nov. 8 elections exciting and unpredictable is a foregone conclusion. Like voters elsewhere in the world, the socio-economic backgrounds of Jordanian voters will determine to a great extent their choice of candidates. Other factors, notably the religious and political perspectives, are also expected to play a significant role in shaping voters' preferences. So slogans or no slogans, the majority of voters have already picked and chose their candidates on the basis of what they perceive as the best for chosen the country.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily discussed His Majesty King Hussein's addresses in Canada and referred also to a speech by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on the eve of the Prophet Muhammad's birthday anniversary in which he underlined the King's call for national unity, tolerance and amity among the members of the Jordanian people. The paper said that Prince Hassan's speech was clearly directed at voters and candidates in the coming election, echoing King Hussein's views on the need for Jordan to exercise democratic and parliamentary rule by responsible people able to solve the problems facing the nation. The paper underlined the need for both sides to be objective and to seek reason and be responsible in their actions; and urged Jordanians to be vigilant and aware of extremist elements. The paper said that parliament means the start of a new stage in democratic life in the Kingdom and a stage in which the Jordanian family should interact and translate their ideas into constructive work. The paper referred to King Hussein's speeches in Canada in which he conveyed to the Canadian public the real image of the situation in the Middle East and explained Jordan's endeavours to embark on a fruitful parliamentary rule.

Writing in Al Ra'i Arabic daily, columnist Abdul Rahim Omar comments on the coming parliamentary elections and the campaigns which started by the candidates Saturday. The writer says the coming weeks will witness a heavy competition among the candidates who hope to win seats in the Lower House of Parliament. Most of the candidates are claiming they will safeguard public liberties and deal with the economic crisis; and on the pan-Arab level, they intend to support the intifada of the Palestinian people by words and deeds. All the candidates are pledging to work for the benefit of their nation and their countrymen, each one is boasting of his or her previous sacrifices in serving the country's higher interests, says the writer. Indeed the main questions irking the public in Jordan are dwelt on by the candidates in their slogans, but it remains to be seen whether they can take real steps to find solutions; and if they do, they will no doubt ensure public confidence for years to come.

Al Dustour daily tackled part of an address by His Majesty King Hussein at Calgary Club in Canada, mentioning in particular his reference to Israel's continued obstruction of peace efforts in the Middle East. The paper said that Israel continues to reject the call of peace and continues to occupy Palestinian land by force of arms, and rejects the idea of recognising the Palestinian people's rights in their homeland. In his address, the King presented the world with the facts about the Middle East situation and shoulders the responsibility of impeding the region's development and the full utilisation of natural resources to serve the people of the region, the paper pointed out. The paper quoted the King as saying that justice can never pave the way for stability and does not conform to mankind's aspirations for a better and more progressive life. The Middle East region has paid with blood and with natural resources the price of instability and lack of peace over the past four decades, said the paper. It said that the King's address served as a call on the world community to take speedy action that would end conflicts in the Middle East and pave the way for development and progress in an atmosphere of peace and security.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Environment, technology, and controls

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

BEFORE scientific, technological and industrial advancement, nature was self balanced, stable, sustainable and healthy. The advanced civilisation created new threats and hazards such as the drying up of water sources, the pollution of air and of drinking water and the destruction of vast areas of trees and other green cover.

The issue of environment took a secondary position in our country. Very few were aware of the creeping problem and had a sense of future. Their call for the protection of the environment was frowned upon. They were accused of raising subjects that only had an intellectual importance. They were perceived by the public opinion as people attempting to imitate the West, where people already solved their political, national and social problems, and were left with nothing to worry about except the protection of the environment and the challenge it presents.

However, the development and procurement of modern technology and industrial capabilities led us to suddenly face drastic threats to our environment, without being prepared, neither from the legislation or experience points of view, nor on the general mentality stand point. Thus the pollution of water, the hazards created by industry, and the poisoning incidents are all, in

a way, indications of advancement and a price for development. Since we have a national consensus over modernisation, the adaptation of technology, and the pushing ahead in the mechanisation of agricultural production, we may have to pay the price. Incidents and scandals will take place from time to time. Even advanced countries are not immune from atomic radiation, yellow rain, the death of forests, and the pollution of rivers and other similar environmental upheavals.

We have therefore to marry new technology with controls and strict regulations. We should not close down a factory or prevent a new industry in Zerqa area, for example, in order to protect the water of King Talal Dam from pollution. Instead we should have procedures and conditions to be adhered to, to safeguard water, prevent poisonous gases from leakage, protect underground water, and other environmental and safety precautions.

Of course environmental protection and regulations are costly. They raise the industrial cost of production. Therefore we should avoid rigid regulations that aim at absolute safety. Absolute safety is desirable but we cannot afford it, except at the cost of losing our economic competitiveness in production. We have to compromise

and find a middle ground. It is advisable to start by adaptation of all basic procedures and controls that are lower in cost and higher in return, before we reach more sophisticated and costly measures.

When incidents take place, which is inevitable, as happened during the last several weeks, we should not panic, nor shift from a position of complete relaxation and gross carelessness to a position of extreme rigidity that can kill industry and render production unfeasible. Accidents are lessons to learn from, to revise our practices and regulations, to close the gaps and to prevent or reduce the probability of recurrence.

The extremely stringent controls imposed by aviation authorities in America and Europe did not prevent at least 10 airplane total crashes every year. However, every aviation accident is being thoroughly investigated to extract lessons and to prevent similar accidents, including the modification of aircraft if a weak point was discovered.

Poisoning and environmental hazards are here to stay. They are an unavoidable price for development and industrialisation. They provide lessons to learn from and to use them for the future. They should not be used to kill industry.

E. Germans shift on reform; Western diplomats warn of limits

By Martin Nesirky
Reuters

EAST BERLIN — East Germany has finally acknowledged intense pressure for changes in its hardline system, but Western diplomats warned against expecting Soviet-style reforms to emerge overnight.

"They are finally starting to wake up," said one diplomat after studying a lengthy and dramatic appeal to the country from the ruling politburo of the Communist party.

"But it is still very early days yet and most certainly not perestroika in the GDR (East Germany)," he said, referring to Moscow's programme of political and economic changes.

Other diplomats, startled by

the swift turn of events this week in the hitherto monolithic state, said East Berlin had faced pressure from at least three sources and could no longer afford to maintain it was on the right course.

About 50,000 people have fled the country in the past month and the same number have emigrated legally, the greatest exodus since the Berlin Wall went up in 1961.

In the worst scenes of unrest for 36 years, thousands spilled on to the streets last week in an outpouring of frustration at the lack of reform. Reform groups, headed by the 15,000-strong New Forum, have also surfaced in the past month.

Amid all this Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev visited for East Germany's 40th birthday and apparently made clear, with-

out giving orders, that something had to change to ensure stability in a country which faces the West and houses 380,000 Soviet troops.

"It was a mixture of the three and, of course, we cannot know what Gorbachev said. But it was clear they had to do something to buy time and mollify the populace," said one East European source.

NEWS ANALYSIS

"A major point is that they have at last agreed the people leaving the country are not just traitors but ordinary people who had their own good reasons for going," said one envoy.

The politburo said it would seek the causes for exodus at home, a shift from saying the

people had been bamboozled by the Western media or even drugged and kidnapped.

Official newspapers are already beginning to reflect the change of mood with a spate of daring, critical articles slotted in between more hardline and traditional fare.

The politburo statement, on the front pages of all major newspapers on Thursday, said East Berlin was ready to discuss suggestions for changes in areas like travel, the economy, media and democratic participation.

Although the politburo set out strict limits to this process, the conciliatory nature of the statement contrasted with previous official comments branding some demonstrators as hooligans and recent praise of China which violently suppressed a pro-demo-

cracy movement last June.

In Thursday's Berliner Zeitung newspaper, party ideologist Otto Reinhold made clear that there could be no challenge to central economic planning, the Communists' leading role and existing ideology.

Referring to the politburo's statement, one diplomat said: "There are lots of 'ifs and buts', but they have at least earned themselves a short breathing space. It remains to be seen whether it is enough to satisfy the demonstrators."

"It has something of the old and new, it is a compromise document, damage limitation, and I certainly don't see a consensus behind it," said one senior envoy.

He said the 21-man politburo's

appeal had many internal contradictions indicating that the unusual two-day session had been marked by deep divisions between hardliners and moderates.

"They have all committed themselves now and if they don't deliver at least on the stated areas they are in for trouble," another said. "We're dealing with impatient people out there."

The diplomat noted the document had held out the prospect of decisions being taken at the policy-making central committee's next meeting, normally due in November or December.

"I just hope that is soon enough. But to call the meeting forward, as some people are hinting, could give the impression of a crisis and that's the last thing they want, even if it is true," he said.

Baltic popular fronts spread gospel of democracy

By Jonathan Lyons
Reuters

RIGA, Soviet Union — Radical national groups from across the Soviet Union are flocking to the Baltic republics, drawn by a vision of democracy.

The powerful popular fronts of Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia have pioneered the weapons in the battle for greater autonomy from Moscow — from sophisticated communications gear to symbolic protests and grassroots organising.

And the region provides a haven safe from the general authoritarianism and odd police raid, practised by some local authorities elsewhere.

"The Balts seem to be lighting the way for the other groups," said a Western diplomat who has close contact with the region. "Moscow must be concerned by this new network."

In the latest stop on the Baltic circuit, representatives of more than 10 independent national groups — from the Ukraine to central Asia — attended the recent second congress of the Latvian Popular Front in the capital Riga.

They heard a spirited two-day session approve an ambitious blueprint for an independent, multi-party Latvian nation free of nuclear weapons and foreign troops.

The Baltic popular fronts have captured the imagination of the native populations, largely displacing the Communist party as the leading political and social force across the region.

Many party members, including leading officials, have forged close ties to the fronts at the risk of displeasing Moscow.

Front-backed candidates — including party members — to the revamped Soviet parliament last spring won stunning victories in Estonia and Lithuania, and performed strongly in Latvia, which has the largest ethnic Russian population of the three.

Since then the fronts have largely set the political agenda for the region. All three plan active campaigns in the next local elections with an eye to taking over the republican parliaments and legislating their way to autonomy — or even independence.

On a more symbolic level, the three mass movements mobilised more than one million people on August 23 in a human chain linking their capitals to protest against the secret 1939 Nazi-Soviet pact that wiped them off the political map as independent states.

Some of the visiting representatives to the recent Latvian front congress came for inspiration and advice. Some sought the latest computer and communications technology.

Others came in search of vital newsprint. "We know we have a lot to learn from the Baltic groups," said Valery Buivol of the nascent

Byelorussian group Vozrozhdenie — or renaissance. "Their struggle is our struggle, their victories are our victories," said Buivol, who is polishing up his Latvian language skills as the group's official liaison with the Riga-based front.

"They (the Balts) were the first and we can learn a lot from their successes and their failures," Buivol said.

Other Vozrozhdenie representatives are assigned to Estonia and Lithuania, where the Byelorussians held their founding conference after local officials refused permission for the meeting at home.

Georgian Popular Front official Avtandil Imnadze said he had more immediate matters in mind: "Of course, it's very nice to come to these meetings and show support. But when this is all over, we are going to look for paper. Our (front) newspaper has not appeared in two months."

Proven organisational skills, an educated workforce and democratic traditions dating back to their pre-war independence have given the three Baltic republics special prestige in the eyes of progressive Soviet forces.

So have their extensive overseas contacts, primarily with influential emigre communities in Canada, the United States and Australia and their Scandinavian neighbours.

The overseas Balts have been a big source of both political and technical support, supplying everything from copying machines to home computers.

Azerbaijani activists speak jealously of facsimile machines brought through this Baltic pipeline from the west, glancing over their shoulder to ensure the rival Armenians do not get too far ahead on the strength of their own large emigre community.

"We do not have anyone shipping us computers. We have trouble finding enough typewriters," lamented one member of the Azerbaijani Popular Front. "We are not like those Armenians, with all their high-level contacts in Washington and Paris."

All this has not gone unnoticed at the other end of the political spectrum.

More and more the Russian immigrant communities in the ethnic republics are copying the methods of the popular fronts, rallying support by industrial workers in the biggest Soviet republic, the Russian Federation.

The United Front of Workers of Russia was formed in early September in the Siberian city of Sverdlovsk to hack Russian-speaking groups in the Baltic republics and to try to put the brakes on economic reform.

Representatives of the ethnic Russian Interfront and Inter-Vozrozhdenie movements from Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Tadzhikistan also attended the conference, which drew 110 delegates from 29 industrial centres.

Profiles of men sentenced with Nelson Mandela

Comrades in prison

By Laurinda Keys
The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Most of the seven men sentenced with Nelson Mandela to life in prison for sabotage and plotting to overthrow the government were arrested in July 1963 during a police raid on their headquarters, a farm in the Johannesburg suburb of Rivonia.

Mandela was already in prison in a separate case, but became a defendant in the so-called Rivonia treason trial because he helped found Spear of the Nation, the military wing of the African National Congress.

Here are profiles of the other seven sentenced on June 12, 1964.

Walter Sisulu

Sisulu ran the day-to-day operations of the ANC as secretary-general from 1949-54, when the government ordered him to resign. He was one of the ANC's most important leaders in the years when it grew from a small organisation into a mass movement. He helped organise the national defiance campaign against apartheid laws in 1952.

Born May 18, 1912, in the Xhosa homeland of Transkei, he joined the ANC in 1940 and formed the youth league in 1943 to press for more aggressive tactics. After his acquittal along with 155 other defendants in a 1956-61 treason trial, Sisulu was restricted to his house, arrested six times, and finally convicted of furthering the aims of the newly outlawed ANC. While on bail pending appeal he went underground and was captured three months later at Rivonia.

Govan Mbeki

A journalist, teacher, and author of two books, Mbeki was the African National Congress national chairman when he was arrested at Rivonia. As a leader in the Xhosa tribal homeland of Transkei, he made the Eastern

Cape province the strongest centre of ANC support in the early 1950s.

Mbeki was born July 18, 1910, to a prosperous cattle-owning chief and earned university degrees in education and economics. He joined the ANC as a student in 1935 and the Communist Party in 1950.

He was acquitted on a technicality in 1962 of violating the explosives act, and was placed under house arrest, but in 1963 disappeared underground until the Rivonia raid. He was identified at the trial as secretary of the military wing high command.

Mbeki was freed unconditionally in November 1987 after serving 23 years of his life term, in what the government said was a test for the possible release of Mandela. He held two news conferences before the government banned him from making public appearances, giving news interviews or leaving the Port Elizabeth area without permission.

Dennis Goldberg

Goldberg, 56, the only white convicted at the Rivonia trial, was the first to be freed, after he agreed to renounce violence in March 1985. He was deported to Israel, but went immediately to London. He works full-time in the ANC's mail-order business, mainly selling T-shirts. He also lectures in Britain and elsewhere.

Goldberg's parents were members of the Communist Party in Cape Town, where he was born in 1933. He was a successful engineer and, according to evidence at the trial, was responsible for manufacturing devices used in the sabotage campaign. The Rivonia court found he had run a military-training camp, which Goldberg said was political education camp.

Ahmad Kathrada

Kathrada, arrested at the age of 17 for participation in a passive

resistance campaign in 1946, was a member of the ANC military wing's high command. He is one of only two Rivonia trial defendants who denied all the charges against him, and was convicted on only one count, sabotage.

Kathrada was born Aug. 21, 1929, in the Western Transvaal to a scholarly Muslim family, and became involved in political activism at age 11. He joined the Communist Party in the early 1940s and as general secretary of the Transvaal Indian Congress, was instrumental in linking it to the ANC. He was acquitted in the 1956-61 mass treason trial, but was placed under house arrest in October, 1962. He went underground a few months before his arrest at Rivonia.

Raymond Mhlaba

Mhlaba denied the charges against him in the Rivonia trial, in particular that he was a member of the high command of the ANC's military wing. But he has been identified in the South African press as the man who became commander-in-chief of the military wing after Mandela's arrest.

In 1952, Mhlaba was the first ANC leader to be arrested as part of the nationwide defiance campaign, when he led a group of blacks through the "whites only" entrance to a train station.

He was born Dec. 2, 1920, in the southern city of Port Beaufort, the son of a policeman. He dropped out of school and worked in the nearby city of Port Elizabeth, where he became active in trade unions. He joined the Communist Party in 1943 and was district secretary from 1946 until it was banned in 1960.

Mhlaba joined the ANC in 1944 and from 1947-53 was branch chairman in Port Elizabeth, where he worked closely with Govan Mbeki. He was elected to the ANC's Cape province executive committee in 1954 and was banned from 1956-57, but continued his political

activities until his arrest at Rivonia.

In 1986, Pollsmoor prison authorities allowed him to marry the mother of three of his eight children.

Elias Motsoaledi

As a founder of the ANC military wing's Johannesburg regional command, Motsoaledi hid recruits and helped send them abroad for military training and procuring armaments, according to evidence at the Rivonia trial. He said he joined the military wing in 1962.

Born in Sekhinkuneland in Northern Transvaal on July 26, 1924, the son of a migrant labourer, Motsoaledi worked in Johannesburg as a servant, and in boot and furniture factories. He joined the Communist Party in 1949, and the ANC in 1948, becoming member of the provincial executive.

In 1949, he became chairman of the Council of Non-European Trade Unions, organised strikes and was banned in 1952. He was detained in solitary confinement for three months in 1960 before going underground. His wife, Caroline, lives in Soweto. Three of their seven children are in exile.

Andrew Mlangeni

Mlangeni said at the Rivonia trial he had agreed to carry messages for the ANC's armed wing, but denied he was a member. He was arrested at the farm, and was accused during the trial of being responsible for explosives and being a member of the Johannesburg command.

Born in Johannesburg on May 30, 1926, he worked as a golf caddy to pay for his schooling, and later as a clerk, bus driver and journalist. He joined the ANC in 1951 and was regional secretary for the township of Soweto from 1958-60, before he went underground.

Malaysian opposition — unlikely partners

By Lai Kwok Kin
Reuters

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia's fledgling opposition alliance is collecting unlikely political bedfellows in a fierce and unprecedented bid to topple the government of Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad.

Analysts said the alliance, led by Mahathir's ally-turned-arch-rival Razaleigh Hamzah, faces an uphill task to persuade voters of its viability ahead of a general election expected to be held before the middle of next year.

It is the first time in Malaysia's 32-year history that opposition parties have united to form an alternative to the 11-member

multi-racial coalition government dominated by Mahathir's main Malay party.

Former Finance Minister Razaleigh's Semangat-46 party has teamed up with the fundamentalist Islamic party Partai Islam se-Malaysia and two smaller groups to form the Malay-based Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah (Muslim Unity Movement).

The movement, and the opposition Chinese-based Democratic Action Party (DAP), hold 36 of 177 parliamentary seats and opposition leaders said they could gather enough support to jointly form a government.

Analysts said an opposition victory was unlikely, partly because

the DAP last week rejected an offer to form an election pact with the new alliance, saying it opposed the Islamic party's goal of making Malaysia an Islamic state.

"Razaleigh has problems trying to reconcile opposites in his camp," one Asian ambassador said, referring to differences between the DAP, which has support among urban Chinese, and the Islamic party, which appeals to rural ethnic Malays.

He said the DAP rejection, while expected, would slash valuable support for the alliance among Chinese, who form a third of Malaysia's 17 million population.

A series of by-elections since

August 1988 has shown the Malay vote is roughly split down the middle, making Chinese backing crucial to an opposition alliance victory.

Members of the Islamic party, which enjoys support in four northern states, are suspicious of Razaleigh who, as a key lieutenant of Prime Minister Mahathir, engineered the party's ouster from the ruling coalition in 1977.

"They (Razaleigh's supporters) are more experienced politically and we have to respect that experience. We have to forgive them," Islamic party spokesman Sdkry Latiff said.

The movement has mapped out a strategy aimed at winning nearly 90 predominantly Malay seats.

Focus on People Being there

By Mariam M. Shahin

OVER THE last 20 or more years thousands of Jordanians have left their country to receive a higher education or better employment opportunities abroad. Their destinations were varied. Initially, many Jordanians travelled to other Arab countries to further their education. Now an ever increasing number leaves for Western Europe or North America. While some come back after their "mission is completed," others stay on in the countries which often come to adopt them as their own. Ibrahim Sali is one of the Jordanians belonging to the latter category. Having left Amman for Beirut, Lebanon, in 1955 for higher education, Sali eventually stayed on and has since been appointed as the acting president of the American University of Beirut (AUB), one of the most distinguished higher education institutions in the Arab World. On a recent brief visit to Amman he talked to Focus on People.

ALTHOUGH children often "repay-in-kind" the love, time and services given to them by their parents and educators, adopted children are often more giving and gracious than the native children. One such adoptive son is Ibrahim Sali; his adopted home is Lebanon, more specifically the AUB. Sali, a Jordanian born in Jerusalem in 1941, had had his higher education in Lebanon and lived on and off in the country from 1955 to 1970. After graduating with an M.D. and specialising in endocrinology, he was appointed as a member of the teaching staff at the AUB's Faculty of Medicine in 1970 while being a practising physician at the American University Hospital (AUH).

Although Sali regularly visited his family in Jordan, as many expatriates do, he felt dutybound to his adopted country where he felt at home after 15 years of stay. So, even after the Lebanese civil war broke out in 1974, Sali felt it was his duty as a physician to serve the people who, then and now, stood more than ever in dire need of him.

Since the beginning of the war, Sali and his Lebanese wife have continuously treated regular patients as well as thousands of war casualties. Although many Lebanese and long-time non-Lebanese residents of Beirut fled the brutality of the war for safer havens, Sali stayed on steadfastly doing what he felt he must.

"I never wanted to leave Beirut," he said. "And so I never did." After having served the AUB for 17 years as a teacher of medicine and practising physician Sali was appointed deputy president of the university. It was an unprecedented move, and one to highly unusual circumstances. No Arab had ever been named as president of the AUB.

"Since the AUB was founded in 1866 all its presidents have been American. It is not a law but it is a tradition. Since it is a university which carries both the name and the tradition of the American higher education system, it has always been felt that it would only be appropriate to have an American as its president," Sali said.

Hostilities against foreigners, Americans in particular, prompted the U.S. government to impose a ban on U.S. citizens travelling to Lebanon in 1987. Thus the AUB board of trustees, after long deliberations decided to appoint Sali as the university's deputy president.

Sali does not feel that choosing a Jordanian as deputy president of an American university in Lebanon was in any way unusual.

"The character of the AUB had always been particularly pan-Arab and even international to a large degree. Till today there are 40 Jordanian academicians out of a total of 400 on the teaching staff. We have at least one Jordanian vice-president and a Syrian dean of colleges. And in the pre-war years there was an average enrolment of 500 Jordanian students out of a total student body of 4,000," Sali recalls.

Although Sali had lived through a great deal of the war already, his new responsibilities represented a whole new array of challenges.

"Above and beyond the regular responsibilities and difficulties faced by a university's chief administrator, we have the on-going war. There are a lot of moral day-to-day 'emergency' decisions that have to be made," Sali says.

Since late last March, when the university was effectively closed down with the exception of the Faculty of Medicine and the university hospital, over 80 shells hit the campus and caused considerable material damage, although no human injuries incurred.

He noted that the AUB cared for 80 per cent of the war casualties of west Beirut in the latest round of fighting which broke out seven months ago and is now on the brink of ending. The fighting was said to be among the worst in the country's civil war.

Sali added that many international agencies had made concerted efforts in the last 15 years to care for the wounded who need rehabilitation. It is, he says, a long-term and seemingly insurmountable task.

"Our day-to-day activities are often hampered by the lack of such necessities as water, electricity, food supplies and airports," he said. "So, we often return to subsistence life styles. Classes have of course been effected by the situation and many graduate programmes have had to be cancelled for the time being. We are concentrating on the subsistence programmes. In the last seven to eight years students have tended to turn away from the liberal arts majors and have concentrated their efforts on majors that will ensure their employment once they graduate. Engineering, medicine and business are the majors most demanded by students," Sali says.

Lebanon in general and Beirut in particular are expected to face a building boom, in part reconstructive and in part innovative, after a durable ceasefire between the warring factions takes effect. Thus many young Lebanese hope to take part in the rebuilding of their country.

Hoping that a durable ceasefire will take effect soon, Sali says the university will be able to "get on" with its educational mission. The second oldest university in the area, the AUB's mission has changed over the years, Sali says. "Today we are one of over 70 universities in the region and of course that makes our mission quite different from when the university was first founded. One of our main aims is to uphold the good quality of the education we give, which means in part that the university must remain small in size," Sali said.

He also pointed out that the AUB has produced a very long list of students who have gone on to positions of great distinction in the Arab World. "Almost in every country in the Arab World several ministers are AUB graduates in any given government at any given time. At present three Jordanian ministers belong to the AUB alumni."

The alumni clubs are essential in funding the university, which this year expects to have a \$10 million deficit. The second largest chapter of the alumni club in the Arab World after Beirut is in Amman, with 1,000 members. The U.S. has anywhere from 3,000 to 4,000, according to Sali.

As Sali talked about prominent Jordanians who had graduated from the AUB, he mentioned at least one former prime minister, countless ministers, members of the Upper House of Parliament and members of Jordan's business community, he forgot, however, to mention himself.



A passion for the wilds

By Evelyn Simonnet

NICOLE Viloteau, a reptile-specialist, photographer, writer and adventurer, is an unusual person. Aged 42, this good-looking young woman has, for more than two years, chosen to periodically cast off the trappings of civilisation in order to make contact with primitive nature.

With only the indispensable backpack containing survival items (poocho-raincoat, dry spare clothing, a pocket-bamboo, medicine and a supply of water and dried food) and work material (photo and sound equipment, maps and a compass), she travels through what she calls equatorial tropical environments, alone.

"Those worlds of forest or desert are, at the same time, the song of life and of death. I am on a wire between the two. I live at the rhythm of that symphony which balances, inebriates and regenerates me". She is her own guide, armed only with a small machete, an American dagger, a paralyzing spray and a morale of steel.

Totally immersed, body and soul, in nature in the raw, she lives through the primitive pulsations of the wild world through all her heightened senses.

Whether she is carried away by the song of the Australian desert, a marriage of wind and sand, or by the song of the rain-forest "ocean murmurs, hissing of gases, rustling branches", or whether she mingles with the odour of the Gabon jungle smell-

ing of "roses, peonies, stuffed tomatoes, squashed bugs, caraway, black olives, caramel, chocolate, wet dog, damp linen and green pepper", she always seeks to draw the original meaning of life from a sensual, instinctive relationship with nature.

By studying reptiles, she discovered a way of communicating with animals; "by watching them mate, I understood what kind of carresses give them pleasure. It is a way of winning them over and acts as a kind of code allowing an instinctive, almost immediate contact with wild animals."

Danger is always present in solo adventure: bears, wolves, dingoes, lions and billions of insects with their sometimes deadly sting; labyrinths of vegetation concealing deep ditches and pits of muddy water where one can break one's bones, drown or get lost. And that is not all. There is yellow fever, malaria, leishmaniasis, filariasis, dysentery. The list of terrible diseases transmitted by the inhabitants of tropical rain forests is long.

Nicole is not unfamiliar with and does not refuse fear which is, at the same time, a surpassing of oneself and an education for the instinct of survival. With wild animals, she invents rituals so that they grow familiar with her peaceful presence and respect her territory. To foil the traps of the vegetation, she locates the streams which always lead to villages. Every time she returns from an expedition, Nicole has an

appointment with specialists at the Cochon hospital in Paris, in case of parasitosis.

Pain can also be named: "When you see your blood flowing, your flesh suffering and your wounds closing up, your love of life grows even more. And, the following time, if it is the same pain, you no longer feel it..."

This total, intimate osmosis with the wild world is a philosophy which Nicole Viloteau wants to reveal, understand and share. When she is staying in France, between two visas, she completes her expeditions with all the thoroughness of a naturalist: she gives lectures in ethno-zoology, rectifying the knowledge scientists have on wildlife and bringing it up to date. She works with botanists to identify as yet unknown plants, and writes books telling her adventures and 'presenting remarkable ecological documents on the environments she explores ("La Femme aux Serpents", "Des jungles plein la tête", published by Flammarion, and "Australie, démons et merveilles", published by Arthaud). Her hope and struggle is to defend nature in a different way, through authentic messages, in order to reach people who generally have a classical, colourless view of ecology and the protection of animals which does not move them. In reading her books and listening to her live recordings, she hopes "people will perhaps be afraid with me, cry with me and dream..." — French features.

Environment — another market novelty

By Carlos Castilho

With much international concern focused on the destruction of the Amazonian rain forests, in Brazil itself, the media are devoting more time than ever to environmental issues. But the author questions their sincerity and asserts that little positive action is being taken by either the printed press or television.

RIO DE JANEIRO — "Three years ago, ecology was for trendy eccentrics. Today conservation has become one of the most popular items on television," claims Fabio Perez, editor-in-chief of an important news programme in Brazil, watched daily by some 60 million people.

The phenomenon has even affected the weekly documentary programme of TV Globo, the largest television network in Brazil. It now broadcasts an average of two items a month, of up to seven minutes, on environmental issues.

Educational Television, owned by the government, broadcasts a weekly 13-minute programme exclusively devoted to ecological questions. The programmes are then distributed on video-cassette to secondary schools and universities.

"Green" issues have also been taken up by advertisers. In May, when Environment Day is celebrated, advertising agencies launched as many as nine new commercials, all of them concerned with defending the environment.

In the written press, the trend is less evident. The newspaper Folha de Sao Paulo launched a monthly supplement devoted to ecology, but the experiment failed and was suspended.

In Rio de Janeiro, the Jornal do Brasil, the fourth most important daily in the country, waited until 1988 before devoting a regular special section to environmental issues.

Coverage in both television and the written media may have risen surprisingly in the last two years — and especially since the assassination in December of the rubber-tapper leader, Francisco Mendes — but the quality still needs to improve. So contends Fabio Feldmann, the only "green" politician in the Brazilian National Congress.

It is good that the press is paying attention to ecological issues," he says, "but this is not enough. It also needs to point out the causes and name those responsible for the pressure on environmental equilibrium."

Most member of the nearly 200 ecological movements which have emerged recently in Brazil share these sentiments. They demand of the press greater investigative rigour in reporting cases involving the destruction of non-renewable natural resources, especially about Amazonia.

Feldmann points out that the loud denunciations of deforestation only became effective after being taken up by the international media.

The most typical case is that of the tree-burnings in the central region and in Brazilian Amazonia. The Jornal do Brasil had begun discussing the subject in 1986, but the news items were sparse and did not succeed in calling public or government attention to the issues.

It was only after North American and European newspapers took up the subject that Brazilians woke up to the problem. Brazilian television made its first documentary on the Amazonian destruction only after Time magazine published a cover story on the topic. Similarly, the assassination of Francisco Mendes only became a national cause as a result of the reaction of governmental organisations abroad.

And despite all these pressures, the murder has still not been totally cleared up. Threats continue against environmental activists in the Amazon and the central region.

In May, the Land Pastoral Commission, an organisation linked to the Catholic Church,

denounced the existence of a list of almost 320 people against whom landowners — who violently oppose their campaigns against indiscriminate deforestation — have issued death threats.

Neither television nor newspapers have made any independent attempt to get to the bottom of the Mendes murder.

British newspapers recently reported that a British oil company was among companies involved in Amazonian deforestation.

This has been known in Brazil for some time, where it is also not a secret that German and Japanese multinationals own enormous tracts of land in the Amazon which are being deforested. But the facts were not publicised.

However, Brazilian television's discovery of the environment is suffused with nostalgia.

Jose Lutzenberger, Brazil's most famous ecologist and winner of the Right Livelihood Award in 1988, welcomes television's discovery of the environment, especially in Globo. But he feels nostalgia is the wrong motivation.

Lutzenberger argues that "popular awareness must be mobilised more quickly, because the destruction of nature is advancing with even greater speed". He wants the press to investigate more and not limit itself to superficial complaints.

The editors of TV Globo admit their new concern for ecology and the environment is a response to clear popular interest rather than a deliberate decision to promote ecological awareness.

Meanwhile, the Amazon dry season has already started, and with it the annual burning of the forests. But the Brazilian media remain silent.

Television could play a key role in stopping the fires because its message reaches almost 70 per cent of Brazilians, while the total circulation of all newspapers combined does not even reach 12 per cent of the population.

Without pressure from public opinion, the government does nothing because its interests are entwined with those of the companies and individuals involved with the destruction of the forest. — Panos.

Pheromones, the anti-theft device of the year 2,000

By Michel Delabarre

EVER since the dog became man's companion, man has noticed that dogs are sensitive to smells which we do not notice. We often speak of a dog's sense of smell. Over the centuries, with the passing of time, as our knowledge increased, we were able to notice that many other breeds of animal had gifts which we lacked.

Numerous animal species have brain structures which are far more developed than ours in the field of perceiving high-pitched sounds and in their sense of smell. Going down the animal scale, we still wonder which mysterious system guides migratory birds in their long journeys, and the behaviour of insects still remains many of its secrets.

Fundamental research on the chemical means of communication between animals, carried out over several years by the French National Scientific Research Centre (CNRS) has come up with an original idea which is so interest-

ing that it has immediately been protected by an international patent. Smell is to be used as a perfect anti-theft system in the near future.

Among vertebrates, the dog, "an animal which lives in a world of smells" has justified its reputation. It acts as an assistant to the police, the customs, rescue services etc. It has a hyper-developed sense of smell and is able to detect the scent of a single molecule left by another dog several weeks earlier. These chemical substances, which act as a message, a marking or a call, have been called "pheromones".

These pheromones, which have been isolated and studied are increasingly better known and objects can thus be "marked" with them. Dogs are then able to find these objects again by their smell, while the smell remains imperceptible to human beings. A thief has absolutely no way of telling that a particular object has been marked, but the dog will make no mistake about

it. The smell, which cannot be detected by man and remains for a very long time, can be recognised by a dog, even under wrappings. And the markings can always be refreshed up if they start to fade, although certain pheromones appear to remain indefinitely.

In the invertebrates, this same basic research on pheromones has produced identical results in numerous cases: many species appear to have just as keen a sense of smell. A bee is thus able to detect a saucer of sugared water from a distance of over 100 metres and a Bombyx can recognise the chemical signal of a female of the species from a kilometre away.

It is quite easy to imagine a policeman or a customs officer having a little box containing a few harmless insects which he can release in any particular place and see them heading for the stolen object, or objects, even if they have been altered, disguised or wrapped up. French features.

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JORDAN MARKET PLACE

Wall Street stock market plunges into maze of junk

NEW YORK (Agencies) — The junk bond monster that has carried Wall Street through its takeover boom came back to haunt traders Friday the 13th of the stock market's scariest month.

The October jinx hit the stock market as the Dow Jones industrial average tumbled 190.58 points to 2,569.26, wiping out 6.91 per cent of its value, two years after the market's worst crash in October 1987 and 60 years after the October 1929 crash.

Now traders are trying to decide if the nightmare is over.

"Over the weekend, people may not think the situation is as serious as they thought Friday," said Charles Jensen of MKI Securities. "We just don't know."

"You might see the worst of this being over early next week," said Jack Conlon of Nikko Securities. "You can't minimise the impact of this selloff. But I don't think you're going to have a repeat of October 1987."

That year, the stock market was flattened by the biggest sell-off in its history, an Oct. 19 plunge of 508 points.

The decline that day was laid to various factors, including talk in Congress of new restrictions on mergers.

Takeovers again played a role in the Friday the 13th selloff. An announcement that the \$6.75 billion buyout of UAL, the parent of United Airlines, was in trouble unhinged an already jittery market. The news sent stocks into a 200-point freefall. For the week, the Dow dropped 216.26 points.

Why should a deal involving one airline rip through a market of thousands of listed stocks with such force?

"It created a mild financial panic," said Hugh Johnson of First Albany Corp. "It's necessary to get the death knell of the last nail in the coffin of junk bonds. And it may be."

The UAL deal was to be financed by traditional bank lending, and not junk bonds, the high-risk, high-return bonds often used in finance buyouts.

But analysts said it sparked broader fears that the fuel for the 1980s takeover boom may not carry into the 1990s. Lenders, either junk bond dealers or banks, are tightening up after a number of big deals have failed.

Meanwhile, those who have committed funds to UAL and other deals are apt to get hurt if the takeovers come to a halt, as some feared Friday. A number of deals in the high-risk, speculative bond market have gone bad, the biggest of which was Campeau, the junk-bond-financed company that is the largest operator of the U.S. department stores.

Campeau needed a bailout when it could not meet its bond payments last month. "If they can't get financing for the UAL deal, the investment community is going to take a real hit," said Larry Wachel of Prudential-Bache Securities. "It's going to be a real disaster."

The stage was set for a stock market sell-off from the start of the week when the market walked to its fifth consecutive closing high.

The Dow Jones industrial average, which includes the stocks of 30 of America's largest companies, had risen about 750 points since mid-November of last year. "With the benefit of hindsight, it's easy to say that the quality of the rally was not very good," said Nikko's Conlon.

"The rally was getting more and more thin. We were really perched on the edge of a fairly significant correction," he added. The UAL announcement pounded stocks, already

weakened by aggressive computer-driven sell programmes sparked by an announcement earlier Friday of unexpected strong gains in the September wholesale prices and retail sales.

John Connolly of Dean Witter said he saw a lot of programme trading involved in the tumble and thought that on Monday people would be in the market to buy, not sell.

"I don't see a black Monday, what I see is a minor event magnified by programme trading. The takeover binge is coming to an end, it is to the banks' credit not to loan money if the deal doesn't look good," he noted.

But additional selling could occur Monday and take the market lower.

"There was overexposure out there," said MKI's Jensen. "People were sitting back and letting the market run its course. When there was no bounce, they got even more nervous. They remember October 1987. That doesn't help."

On a purely economic basis, there is reason to believe the stock market will rebound. The dollar is strong, unlike September 1987, when the Federal Reserve was intent on propping up the dollar. It raised interest rates and the market began falling, climaxing with the October crash.

"It's not fun"

The stock market's sudden drop sent financial workers out onto Wall Street in a daze, assessing the damage and already worrying about next week.

"It's not fun, it's not fun," mumbled a middle-aged man in a trench coat as he emerged from the New York Stock Exchange after the final bell. "People were taking a little bit of a beating in there."

The man in the trench coat, who would not give his name, predicted more of the same following the weekend: "I think they're gonna run on Monday." Memories of 1987 dominated conversation.

"I thought it was all over two years ago," said a stock exchange floor reporter named Anthony. "But I never thought it would happen again. I figured only on Friday the 13th would this happen."

Another man on a street corner shook his head and said to a friend, "I'm trying to figure out whether I got my head banded to me. I just don't know."

But stockbroker Beroard Klein was defiantly optimistic: "This is not going to be like Black Monday. The market is going to stick on Monday, absolutely. What we had today was just panic selling."

Jeff Schure, an options trader, wasn't so sure.

"This just shows that the upward movement wasn't on stable ground," Schure said. "Most people took it today. One guy I know went down for \$150,000."

Said options trader Larry Mendelson: "Monday's going to be a scary day. People have all weekend to think about this. It was grim."

"World stock markets are bracing themselves for a rerun of the 1987 crash," the Times of London said in Saturday's editions. "Fixed managers were forecasting that the fall would lead to a global wave of selling, although many doubted that it would be at the panic levels of 1987," it said.

In Hong Kong, Larry Tam, the director of Sun Hung Kai Securities, expressed confidence that the American stock market drop

would not greatly affect the Hong Kong market when it reopens Monday.

He pointed to an upward trend on the Hong Kong market in recent days on the strength of several major projects in the colony, including a new airport.

In Japan, dealers predicted Saturday that the U.S. plunge might cause a drop in the Tokyo market, but they predicted it would be only temporary.

"The Nikkei index might also plunge when the Tokyo market opens Monday, because Japanese investors will be inclined to sell largely discouraged by the plunge in New York," said Kazuhiro Nishimura, a dealer with New Japan Securities Co.

He said the Nikkei index might drop nearly 1,000 points temporarily.

"The Japanese market will want to watch what happens in New York Monday, so majority of investors will step off to the sidelines," he said.

But Nishimura predicted that the fall in New York would not have a major lasting impact on the Tokyo market.

"Since there is no change in Japanese economic fundamentals, the Tokyo market will not fall as sharply as in New York just because of the plunge on Wall Street," he said.

In Europe, analysts expressed greater concern.

"Seotimote in London was already nervous," said Terry Connor, head of market making at the London finance house Robert Fleming. "It's reminiscent of 1987 and almost anything can happen. ... we are in for a very nervous Monday."

Alex Hammond-Chambers, of the British fund management company Ivory and Sims, noted the worldwide ripple effect after the U.S. crash in 1987.

"I imagine London will follow suit Monday," he said.

But Hammond added: "We survived that one (in October 1987) and the markets have since recovered."

Richard Jeffrey, director of economics at the London securities company Hoare Govett, said comparisons with 1987 were unfair because many companies were now on valued at lower levels.

He added, however, that prices on the London market could fall heavily when it reopens Monday.

He predicted that the Financial Times share price index of 30 leading British companies, a major market indicator, could fall to 1,718 Monday, down from 1,818 at the close Friday night.

His prediction of a 100-point fall compares with a drop of 183.7 points to 1,629.2 on Oct. 19, 1987 — the first day of the crash two years ago.

Jeffrey said the London market had escaped the vogue for highly-

leveraged buyouts, which he blamed for the sharp fall in New York Friday. The London market, he said, would thus be spared a dramatic collapse.

The Bank of England, in a statement Friday night, also suggested the U.S. market had been undermined by leveraged transactions.

But John Chiene, chairman of the British investment bank County Natwest Wood Mackenzie, said: "Our stock market has been in a delicate condition for some time. Given the extent to which we have been tracking Wall Street, this news is likely to have a significant adverse impact on Monday."

London stock market prices were soft this past week as the value of the British pound continued to slip despite high interest rates.

Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government on Oct. 5 increased British interest rates by one percentage point to 15 per cent following interest rate increases by West Germany and five other European countries. But the increase failed to stop the pound from falling.

The Financial Times 30-share index closed Friday night 39.8 points lower over the week.

Dollar goes down

The Dow plunge pounded down the U.S. dollar Friday in hectic selling.

Harried traders reported an atmosphere of alarm suddenly engulfed the currency markets late in the afternoon as stock prices skidded on the New York Stock Exchange.

"It just seemed everybody wanted to sell dollars. It was just a mass panic," said Thomas Paladino, an assistant vice president at the New York office of the Amsterdam Rotterdam Bank.

"There was an eerie sense of deja vu," said Kevin Laurie, manager of treasury operations at the Bank of Boston in New York. "The dollar reacted to it pretty violently."

Dollar sales bred additional selling as the dollar sank below thresholds that professional traders had designated as "stop loss" levels. In stop-loss manoeuvres, traders sell to guard against possibly losing more money in case a market slide continues.

The drop in the dollar was exaggerated by the diminished trading volume that is typical for Friday afternoons.

On Fridays, banks stop dealing directly with one another earlier than on other days of the week, which reduces liquidity in the market. Price movements have a greater impact when liquidity is low.

Dealers said they expected the dollar to lose additional ground against other major currencies in Asian trading over the weekend.

Canada plans aid to Jordan

OTTAWA (Petra, J.T.) — Canada will offer Jordan \$17.5 million in economic aid over the coming two years, according to an announcement by the Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

Quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the prime minister said the Canadian assistance will help Jordan exploit its natural gas and assist in the Kingdom's endeavours in search of oil.

Canada will offer Jordan other forms of assistance, through the Canadian Agency for International Development, to help the Kingdom carry out its economic restructuring programmes and food strategy which could together reach \$2 million, Mulroney added.

He said that Canada will also provide assistance designed to back the Jordanian government's public administration training and industrial projects.

Last year, the Canadian government announced a 19 million Canadian dollar grant to the Kingdom and said that the Petro Canada International Agency for Cooperation will work through 1989 on seismic exploration activities in the Rikhe area, north east of Jordan.

But later, the director-general of the Natural Resources Authority said after a visit to Ottawa that the Kingdom will try to get further assistance to back its oil exploration efforts.

Bedour pushes new labour law

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Labour has embarked on intensive meetings designed to speed up the formulation of a new labour law to replace the outdated law in operation since 1960.

Labour Minister Jamal Al Bedour chaired a meeting of a special committee entrusted with working out the law and its various provisions, and announced that the projected law is needed now to deal with a great deal of problems resulting from the great strides of development over the past three decades.

The law, expected to be finalised before the end of October, will serve as a basis for governing relations between the employers, the workers and their unions, the minister said after the meeting.

He said the next meeting, to be held in the coming week, will study a set of recommendations submitted by the labour unions and the chamber of commerce.

The new labour law, the minister noted, will organise trades, professions and vocations in Jordan and is directly linked to the national economic functions.

It defines the minimum wages for workers in each trade and also classifies trades and professions according to a set of specifications and the qualifications of the workers, the minister added.

On the committee are two representatives from each of the Ministry of Interior, the Federation of Labour Unions, the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce, the Amman Chamber of Industry, the Bar Association, the Faculty of Law at the University of Jordan, the Social Security Corporation, the Vocational Training Corporation, the Jordanian Engineers Association and the Ministry of Labour.

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market starting Saturday Oct. 7, '89 and ending Wednesday Oct. 11, '89. (Figures in Jordanian dinars)

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	2939	4820	1.640	1.640	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	2400	5384	2.340	2.300	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	6283	8791	1.400	1.400	1.000
Housing Bank	2900	5670	1.860	1.840	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Cauro Amman Bank	—	—	—	—	5.000
Bank of Jordan	405	328043	14.000	14.000	5.000
Arab Bank	1670	94706	194.000	196.500	10.000
Jordan National Bank	37929	—	2.500	2.490	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	—	107327	—	—	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Bank	32625	—	3.270	3.300	1.000
National Financial Investments	—	459273	—	—	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	256323	15986	1.650	1.620	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	6264	—	2.630	2.560	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	2.000
Beit Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan French Insurance	25315	47567	1.800	1.850	1.000
Jordan Insurance	16956	45150	2.750	2.630	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	3500	4550	1.240	1.300	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	16000	27882	1.540	1.750	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Philadelphus Insurance	1600	2269	1.440	1.400	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Gulf Insurance	500	800	1.620	1.600	1.000
General Arabia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Abhiya Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Belghin Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
United Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Services and industries					
General Investments	285	271	1.000	0.950	1.000
Jordan Investment and Financial Facilities	31285	31754	1.000	1.010	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaro)	49200	30751	0.640	0.610	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	68760	26414	0.380	0.380	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	—	—	—	—	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta'jeero	3750	1313	0.850	0.850	1.000
International Contracting & Investment	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	5626	8109	1.430	1.440	1.000
Jordan Electric Power	1000	800	0.810	0.810	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	300890	513563	1.670	1.750	1.000
Arab International Hotels	—	—	—	—	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	4800	2112	0.460	0.440	1.000
United Middle East and Commodore Hotels	—	—	—	—	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	75	338	4.600	4.500	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	314800	687098	2.030	2.170	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Dar Al Shab Press, Printing and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Dairy	64551	76003	1.120	1.210	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	16373	76332	4.650	4.630	1.000
Intermedine Petrochemical Industries	410210	1104274	2.580	2.740	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	550	2265	4.250	4.100	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Istai)	445577	905877	1.770	2.170	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	4050	21523	5.420	5.300	1.000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Aladdin Industries	135400	426877	3.070	3.150	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	160475	362388	2.170	2.250	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	225	1125	5.000	5.000	1.000
Chemical Industries	21000	55083	2.600	2.690	1.000
Jordan Industries and Maish (JIMCO)	243254	376318	1.550	1.580	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	30553	115217	3.600	3.820	1.000
National Steel Industries	4700	11041	2.350	2.360	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	136893	563584	3.800	4.230	5.000
General Mining	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	4361	34319	7.890	7.870	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	92505	11896	0.120	0.130	1.000
National Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Investment and International Trade	173251	103817	0.560	0.580	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	17653	51756	2.910	2.920	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	196076	568594	2.600	2.970	1.000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	3750	24653	6.500	6.850	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	221920	473780	2.100	2.070	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	100	74	0.690	0.760	1.000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1.000
Vient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1.000
Wooden Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tanning	—	—	—	—	5.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	—	—	—	—	1.000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	394080	923023	2.260	2.280	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	58900	234641	3.550	4.300	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	135851	315609	2.300	2.340	1.000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	216249	473764	2.080	2.260	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	46516	46656	0.990	1.020	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	13256	14137	1.070	1.080	1.000
Jordan Precast Concrete Industry	183337	115835	0.580	0.610	1.000
Grand total	4,621,784	9,957,292			

Amman to help Sanaa in telecommunications

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Teams from the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) will soon visit North Yemen to advise on the implementation of a development and modernisation programme of the telephone system in that country in the course of implementing resolutions adopted by the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries.

This was announced here Saturday by TCC Director-General Mohammad Shahid Ismail upon returning home at

the head of a delegation which visited Sanaa to discuss the project.

The technical teams would be involved in helping North Yemeni officials and technicians in matters related to maintenance, management and operation of the telecommunication operations.

He said that the teams would also help in carrying out the twinning programme between the two institutes for telecommunication training in North Yemen

Lendl meets Wahlgren in Australian indoor final

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Two-time champion Ivan Lendl blitzed unseeded Swede Niclas Kroon 6-1, 6-1 Saturday to advance to the final of the \$492,500 Australian indoor tennis championship at the Sydney Entertainment Centre.

Lendl, ranked No. 1 in the world and bidding for his third victory in the event, took 57 minutes to overpower Kroon and earn a meeting Sunday with another Swede, Lars Wahlgren.

Wahlgren, who had not previously made it past the first round of a grand prix tournament this year, defeated Swedish-born Australian teen-ager Johan Anderson 6-3, 4-6, 6-4 in a two-hour baseline struggle in Saturday's other semifinal.

Lendl will be bidding for the 81st grand prix singles title of his career, playing in his 124th final and looking for his ninth championship of the year.

Wahlgren is ranked 22nd in the world and has never made it past the second round of any major tournament. He guaranteed himself a career-high

paycheck of \$37,500 by beating Anderson, while Lendl's career earnings exceed \$12 million.

Wahlgren, 23, said he had gone into the tournament with a goal of qualifying for the first round. Earlier this year, he considered retirement because he was not making enough money.

"This is one of the best of my life. It is totally unbelievable to be in the final," Wahlgren said.

His first career victory came in a satellite event in Greece in 1986. He was supposed to collect \$5,000, but the promoter went out of business and failed to pay up.

"Throughout my career I've needed money so badly," Wahlgren said. "Now I can really concentrate on my game."

Wahlgren said he has been plagued by nerves in grand prix events, but he kept his composure better than Anderson, whose family moved to Australia six years ago.

The two players are close friends. Wahlgren has been staying with Anderson's family in Sydney to save on hotel bills and

the two travelled to the stadium together, ate lunch and warmed-up together.

"A week ago I wouldn't have thought I had a chance against Lendl, but anything can happen in a final," Wahlgren said. "This is all beyond my wildest dreams."

Lendl said he would not be underestimating Wahlgren.

"His form this week shows he is playing better than his ranking," he said. "You cannot afford to take it easy against anyone."

Lendl hit the ball consistently hard and deep against Kroon, who appeared tired after two busy weeks. He last week won the Queensland Open title in Brisbane.

"I didn't have much to complain about," Lendl said after the rout. "I am hitting the ball well."

Wahlgren will attempt to become only the third Swede to win a grand prix tournament this year. Stefan Edberg won in Tokyo in April and Kroon won last week in Brisbane.

The winner Sunday will earn \$75,000.

English soccer

Barnes keeps Liverpool top

LONDON (R) — John Barnes shrugged off his disappointment in the World Cup qualifier in Poland in midweek to guide Liverpool to a 2-1 away win at Wimbledon Saturday which kept them top of the English League.

Barnes, showing touches of the skill that has made him a must for England manager Bobby Robson, laid on the opening goal for England teammate Peter Beardsley after only three minutes.

Another of Liverpool's array of internationals, Ronnie Whelan of the Republic of Ireland, completed a brilliant week by netting the winner 10 minutes after the break after Dennis Wise had equalised for Wimbledon four minutes into the second half.

Whelan opened the account in Ireland's 3-1 triumph over Norway that put them in sight of a place in the World Cup finals.

Champions Arsenal, who have not conceded a goal in five home games, sounded a warning to Liverpool by thrashing Manchester City 4-0 at home to leap over Chelsea into second place on 17 points, one behind the leaders.

Norwich, with Liverpool the only unbeaten team, moved into

third after their first home win of the season after four draws at Carrow Road.

Liverpool's city rivals Everton stayed in touch with the leaders thanks to an 86th minute goal by Norman Whiteside for a 2-1 home win over Millwall which lifted them to fourth place with 16 points.

Barnes appeared to have fully recovered from the hamstring injury which put him out of Wednesday's 0-0 draw in Poland which clinched England's place in next year's World Cup finals.

His perfect pass gave Beardsley time and space to open the scoring before Wimbledon had warmed up.

Liverpool survived two first-half mistakes by goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar, but a third in the 49th minute let in wise for the equaliser.

Barnes, leading the visiting attack in the absence of injured

Welsh star Ian Rush, helped Liverpool regain the lead six minutes later by creating the winner, an all-Irish effort in which Steve Staunton's shot was blocked by goalkeeper Hans Segers only for Whelan to net the rebound.

Barnes was unlucky not to be rewarded with a goal of his own when his 20th-minute drive struck the crossbar.

Striker Perry Groves scored twice as Arsenal ran riot in front of more than 40,000 fans at home to Manchester City, who have yet to pick up an away point.

Groves opened the scoring in the 20th minute and struck again 20 minutes after the break between a brilliant solo goal by England hopeful Michael Thomas and substitute Paul Merson's 77th-minute strike.

Mark Bowen, like Whelan, scored for club and country this week. Bowen, who netted a consolation goal for Wales in a 2-1 defeat by European champions the Netherlands, set Norwich on their way to victory over Chelsea.

Amman Little League Soccer

scores
Friday, Oct. 13, 1989

TOTS

7-Up (2)	vs	Lot. Traders (0)
Intercon (0)	vs	Wang (1)
Konica (0)	vs	Jordan Express (0)

JUNIORS

A.I.C.I. (0)	vs	Budget (0)
Mr. Chips (1)	vs	Jordan Insurance (2)
Pirelli (0)	vs	Pepsi (4)
Volvo (1)	vs	Apple (3)

MIDS

Arab Bank (0)	vs	NECC (0)
Al-Hikma (2)	vs	Jordan Ornamino (0)
Westinghouse (2)	vs	Danish Dairy (0)

SENIORS

Cairo Amman Bank (4)	vs	Pan Am (0)
Nash/Ebb (2)	vs	Aramex (1)

Soccer Standings as of Oct. 13, 1989

TOTS	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Wang	5	0	0	15	0	15
7-Up	3	1	1	7	3	10
Intercon	1	2	2	5	6	5
Int. Traders	1	3	1	5	12	4
Jordan Express	1	3	1	5	11	4
Konica	0	2	3	1	6	3

JUNIORS

Apple	4	1	0	12	3	12
A.I.C.I.	3	0	2	4	0	11
Pepsi	3	0	2	9	2	11
Volvo	2	2	1	5	6	7
Jordan Insurance	2	3	0	5	8	6
Mr. Chips	0	2	3	5	11	3
Pirelli	0	3	2	2	8	2
Budget	0	3	2	0	4	2

MIDS

Westinghouse	3	0	2	9	3	11
Danish Dairy	2	1	2	6	4	8
NECC	2	1	2	7	6	8
Arab Bank	1	0	4	3	2	7
Al-Hikma	1	3	1	5	10	4
Jordan Ornamino	0	4	1	2	7	1

SENIORS

Cairo Amman Bank	4	0	1	16	8	13
Nash-Ebb	3	1	1	10	10	10
Pan Am	2	3	0	14	10	6
Aramex	0	5	0	5	17	0

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HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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EQUAL IS NOT THE SAME

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ 8 5 3	♠ Q J 10 9	♥ Q 10 7 5	♥ J 9
♦ K 6 4 3	♦ J 9 6 3	♣ K J 9 6 3	♣ Q 10 2
♣ 8 4	♣ K 8 7 6		

SOUTH		WEST	
♠ A K 2	♠ A K 2	♥ A 8 2	♥ A 8 2
♦ A 7 5	♦ A 7 5	♣ A 7 5	♣ A 7 5
♣ A J 10 3	♣ A J 10 3		

The bidding:
South West North East
2 NT Pass 3 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Six of ♠.
The theme of today's hand is a situation that is misplayed almost as often as it is handled correctly. It is a simple combination that crops up frequently at the table.
The bidding was simple. South's opening bid showed a balanced 21-22 points (he correctly added 1 point for possession of all four aces). North probed for a major-suit fit with Stayman, then settled for the no-trump game after South denied a major.

West made the textbook lead of fourth-best from his longest and strongest, hitting declarer's weak spot. There were only six fast tricks—the remaining three would have to come from the club suit via a finesse.

Declarer made the technically correct play of holding up the ace of diamonds for two rounds, discarding a spade from dummy on the third round. Now everything hinged on which defender held the king of clubs.

We know that many declarers would cross to dummy with the king of hearts to lead the queen of clubs. When that won the trick, they would continue with a club to the ten and then cash the ace of clubs in an attempt to drop the king. When that didn't work, they would have to concede down one.

Since declarer holds the J-10 of clubs, the queen and nine are equals. But it is most important which card declarer leads from dummy for the finesse. He must play the nine! When that wins, declarer can next lead the queen. If that is not covered, declarer is still in dummy to take a third finesse to bring in the whole club suit and land his contract.



Michael Chang

Chang into \$200,000 Hong Kong final

HONG KONG (AP) — French Open champion Michael Chang of the United States upset top-seeded Stefan Edberg of Sweden 6-3, 6-7 (5-7), 6-3 Saturday to advance to the finals of the \$200,000 Marlboro tennis championships.

Third-seeded Chang, who also beat Edberg in the final of the French Open, is to meet defending champion Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia in the final Sunday.

Mecir had no trouble in beating American Richey Reneberg 6-2, 6-4 in the other semifinal match.

Both semifinal losers had to play their quarterfinal matches earlier Saturday because of rain Friday.

The two players then held their serves in the next set, which went to a tie breaker. Edberg seemed likely to drop the tie breaker when he doublefaulted on the first point and later fell behind 2-4, but the Swede clawed his way back to win it 7-5.

In the third set, Chang broke Edberg's serve in the eighth game. After failing to take six match points, Chang eventually put together two winners to win the match.

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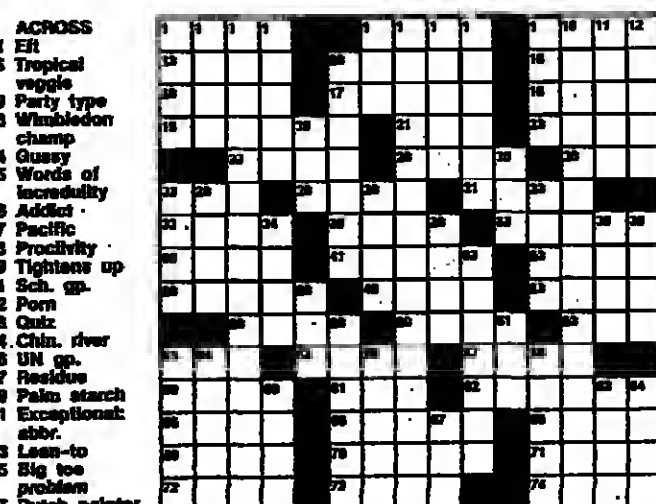
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THE Daily Crossword by Roger Coburn



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solver:

1 Marine: abbr.	46 Hesitant	58 Paper—
2 Being	47 Head	59 Upper stories
3 Half a saw	48 Lagoon	60 Troop ship
4 Lagoon	49 Killer whale	61 Letters
5 Killer whale	50 Calming	62 Gross
6 Calming	51 Rope	63 Graft—
7 Rope	52 Records	64 Graft—
8 Records	53 Shows grief	65 Select
9 Shows grief	54 Rest of saw	
10 Rest of saw	11 Void	
11 Void	12 Mast	
12 Mast	13 Letter coat	
13 Letter coat	14 Curve	
14 Curve	15 Rake	
15 Rake	16 Snake	
16 Snake	17 Seed	
17 Seed	18 Shift insect	
18 Shift insect	19 Jacket type	
19 Jacket type	20 Boy-girl	
20 Boy-girl	21 Set	
21 Set	22 Type of bag	
22 Type of bag	23 No summer	
23 No summer	24 Furs, no	
24 Furs, no	25 Furs	
25 Furs	26 Machines	

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CONCORD

1) NO WAY OUT

Show: 3:30, 5:15

2) CRY FREEDOM

Show: 6:15, 8:00

Cinema Tel: 634144

PHILADELPHIA

WHITE NIGHTS

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 675571

NIJOUN

STEVEN SPIELBERG AND
WALT DISNEY STUDIOS
Present
who framed
ROGER RABBIT

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 677420

PLAZA

SUMMER JOB

Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 5:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Thousands march in S. Africa to celebrate release of activists

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Tens of thousands of workers chanting support for the outlawed African National Congress (ANC) marched in cities across South Africa Saturday to hail the imminent release of eight jailed senior activists.

Up to 10,000 people demonstrated in four cities including Cape Town and Johannesburg and smaller gatherings were held elsewhere to celebrate the releases, the latest conciliatory move by the new government of President F.W. de Klerk.

Large forces of police were deployed in Cape Town and the Indian Ocean cities of Port Elizabeth and Durban but they did not intervene in line with a new lenient policy towards public dissent.

The marches were among the

largest open-air demonstrations in decades. But the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), the country's largest labour organisation, had hoped a quarter of a million people in 17 centres would participate and protest against anti-strike legislation.

Shouts of "long live the ANC" and "short live F.W. (de Klerk)" reverberated among gleaming office towers as banner-waving union members surged through Johannesburg's central business district.

"We say to the de Klerk regime we have had enough, we will not be exploited," COSATU Secretary-General Jay Naidoo told the marchers. "The time has come for us not to allow any further laws we did not participate in making."

Another speaker who was not identified said in an African language that blacks should march on Pretoria and seize power. "The key to power is there for the taking."

A chant of "Viva Sisulu" rang out in honour of veteran activist Walter Sisulu, one of the eight to be freed and the closest colleague of jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

Government sources say the activists will be freed Sunday after serving up to 26 years in prison for plotting to overthrow white rule, end apartheid and install black majority government.

Marchers in many centres waved the red flag of the banned Communist Party and the black, green and gold colours of the outlawed ANC and chanted sup-

port for Mandela and exiled ANC leader Oliver Tambo.

De Klerk said he agreed to the releases to show he is sincere in promising to end discrimination and establish a new constitution giving voiceless blacks a role in government.

But dissidents said it was a ploy to avert the imposition of further anti-apartheid trade sanctions at a Commonwealth summit in Malaysia next week.

Pretoria must do much more, including releasing Mandela and lifting emergency rule, before they will agree to enter negotiations, the dissidents added.

"We say that every political prisoner should not be in prison. Please continue the (international) pressure," said union and church activist Emma Mashinini.

Few results expected from Salvador talks

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — Guerrilla commanders and government representatives will sit down Monday to discuss how their forces might stop killing each other, but significant progress seems unlikely as this country's civil war enters its second decade.

The meeting is set for San Jose, Costa Rica, but violence has surged in advance of the talks and each side has accused the other of ill will, though neither wants to be seen as the "bad guy" who breaks up the talks.

The rightist administration of President Alfredo Cristiani wants the Oct. 16-17 Costa Rica session to produce an immediate cessation of hostilities. Cristiani says negotiating a cease-fire will be the main focus of discussion, with other matters, such as possible political or economic changes, left for later.

The Salvadoran rebels reject the government's immediate cease-fire proposal, saying it would be "suicide" to stop fighting before negotiating terms under which the war should end.

An estimated 70,000 people have been killed in the 10-year war between the Marxist-led Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, or FMLN, and a succession of U.S.-backed governments. An Oct. 15, 1979, coup by young military officers is regarded as the start of the conflict.

The rebels are fighting to abolish what they contend is an oligarchic system that has enriched a tiny minority of this nation's five million people while leaving the great majority impoverished.

The rebels and the government met in Mexico City last month amid an atmosphere that was characterized as cordial and constructive, although the only substantive agreement was an agreement to meet monthly in the future.

The Mexico City meeting was the first between the guerrillas and a Salvadoran government since 1987 and followed Aug. 7 accords calling for peace talks. Cristiani also called for talks when he took office June 1.

The guerrillas' terms for a cease-fire include: beginning a reform of the conservative-controlled judiciary; halting repression by security forces; trials for death squad members; overhauling the 1983 constitution and moving up legislative elections from their scheduled date of 1991.

The rebels also want guarantees that their forces will not be attacked or harassed by the numerically superior and better-equipped government army before any demobilisation.

Cristiani says constitutional reform is not a matter for discussion at these talks.

"We do not intend to negotiate a political platform with the FMLN," Cristiani said last week. "That is what the FMLN, once it is part of the democratic process, will have to negotiate with the Salvadoran people if it hopes to obtain political power."

The insurgents say the government's insistence that they simply lay down their arms and "join the democratic process" is tantamount to a call for their surrender.

"That is absurd," said Ferman Cienfuegos, one of the five FMLN commanders, in an interview with journalists in Managua, Nicaragua. "Surrender would be political suicide."

The government has adopted a position as if we had been defeated, when it is obvious we have not been defeated," said Leonel Gonzalez, another rebel commander.

An estimated 7,000 full-time guerrillas and about twice that many militiamen and women control a swath of northern and eastern El Salvador. They have mounted attacks in all 14 provinces.

Chomminyon demanded the United States recall Gregg, saying he had helped to support military rule when he was Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) station chief in Seoul in the 1970s.

The alliance, represented at the news conference by several top leaders, also called for withdrawal of the 43,000 U.S. troops based in South Korea.

UFO fever sweeps Soviets

By David Ljunggren - Renter

VORONEZH, Soviet Union — An entire city in Central Russia is spellbound by reports of giant aliens in a downtown visit — but as a westerner, "I had no close encounter of a Soviet kind."

They came from outer space, three-eyed monsters landing from a shining ball-like craft, that's what everyone says.

Feverish excitement about UFOs (unidentified flying objects) is sweeping Voronezh, an industrial city of 900,000 people, about 500 kilometres southeast of the Soviet capital.

Soviet scientists agree that something strange did happen in a local park on the night of Sept. 27.

But after a week of sensational stories of alien landings and a creature with a magic pistol, that seemed to be about the only thing they could say for sure.

The site draws awed crowds, including many who seem to know someone who saw trigger-happy aliens come to earth and fire at a local teenager.

But on a mission from Moscow I found no convincing clues.

The mysterious visitors could have chosen a more scenic location for an extraterrestrial display.

play.

The spot where bug-eyed creatures are reported to have stepped out of a glowing ball is the kind of blighted urban patch common to most cities around the world.

I found no sweeping backdrop, no eerie resonance at the scene of what many Russians believe to be a genuine visit from outer space.

Children who claim to have seen the landing are due to appear Saturday before a local commission responsible for investigating abnormal phenomena.

On the buses, in the streets, in taxi queues, residents talk constantly of three-metre-high creatures landing in a luminous sphere.

According to the reports, one of the aliens, silver-suited and accompanied by a robot, strolled through the park before firing an unusually large gun at a 16-year-old boy, who temporarily vanished. He reappeared when the spacecraft left.

"I am a sceptic," said engineer Yuri Belyanov outside the plot of wasteland where the children said they saw the ball disgorging the pistol-packing, three-eyed monster.

"But I don't believe that so many people can be wrong. How can anyone make a mis-

take about a glowing ball coming out of the sky?

Rumours constantly sweep through this city best known for its aircraft and chemical industries. Few dismiss the reports outright although some are clearly hedging their bets.

Reports of UFO sightings in this traditionally superstitious country are not new. Recently a faith healer who treats various ailments on television has attracted tens of millions of viewers.

The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda noted that air traffic monitors in the area of Voronezh recorded nothing unusual at the time the landing was supposed to have occurred.

But one of the scientists investigating the incident told Reuters he was convinced the children had witnessed some unusual phenomenon.

Other reports have spoken of "humanoids" spotted in rural areas. According to one particularly dramatic account, a man spoke with a group of glowing aliens in the Ural mountains city of Perm.

On Friday I met a group of citizens huddled around the waste ground dotted with birch trees where a pattern of 20 centimetre deep holes marks the area where the three-eyed alien fired a pistol at the youth.

Gandhi looks set to call elections after defeats

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi looked set to announce general elections after his government suffered two defeats in parliament late Friday.

Senior government sources said Gandhi would call elections almost immediately so he could use the defeat of two constitutional amendment bills in the upper house as a campaign issue.

The bills seek devolution of power from state governments to village and town councils but fell short of the required two-thirds majority by two and three votes respectively.

"At last we have an issue. This will be our major campaign platform... that the opposition is against any real devolution of power to the grass-roots level," said Minister of State for Information K.K. Tiwari.

Finance Minister Shankarrao Bhaurao Chavan said the opposition had made a grave mistake in fighting legislation aimed at giving

power to people in villages and towns.

Political analysts say the bills were designed to woo the rural population, who make up 80 per cent of India's 800 million people.

"Opposing the legislation not only meant upsetting people who felt too much power was concentrated in a handful of representatives in parliament and state assemblies but also the villages headmen," said one Gandhi aide.

Officials of the panchayat or village councils are traditionally headmen, elders and influential residents of villages. They play an important role in mobilising voters during an election.

"Just imagine who these people would support, knowing that funds were coming to them unhindered by anyone at the state government level for the first time," the aide added.

Gandhi himself made clear in a speech at the end of a bitter debate on the bills that they were linked to elections.

"When the voter stands in the seclusion of the voting booth his hand will go down on the hand which clasps him as a friend," Gandhi said in a reference to his Congress Party election symbol, the palm of a hand.

"Those who oppose the bill will fail the people and live to rue their lapse," he said of the opposition, which at one time appeared divided on the issue.

The rightwing Bharatiya Janatha Party (BJP) offered its eight upper house members to vote against the government only after intense pressure from other opposition parties.

The opposition fears the bills will enable central government to bypass state governments and channel development funds directly to village and town councils.

Opposition members also rejected the Congress view that their stand against the bills would lose them votes.

FBI gets more clout to snatch fugitives abroad

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States has indicated it may in future snatch fugitives from abroad without clearing the action with foreign governments, and Panama has warned that such a course would be a violation of national sovereignty.

Justice Department officials announced Friday that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has been given authority to seize people wanted in the United States without the approval of the foreign government.

Secretary of State James Baker stressed to reporters that the new policy would not be invoked without full consideration by the United States of foreign policy implications.

The step, marking a dramatic change in U.S. policy, was described by one newspaper as the "president's snatch authority."

It raised questions over whether FBI agents could be charged in foreign countries with kidnapping.

It was not immediately clear whether the measure was aimed at people such as Panamanian strongman General Manuel Antonio Noriega, who has been indicted in Florida on drug traf-

ficking charges, people who had fled the United States or individuals accused by Washington of terrorist attacks on Americans abroad.

Panama Attorney-General Carlos Augusto Villalaz said the United States would be violating Panama's sovereignty if it tried to extradite fugitives without government permission.

"The United States is violating the sovereignty of the country since extradition procedures are established in international law," Villalaz said.

Noriega, who has withstood U.S. attempts to remove him by sanctions and diplomatic pressure, has accused Washington of instigating an abortive coup against him by rebel Panamanian soldiers last week.

Describing the policy change as "a very narrow legal opinion," Baker said: "It did not take into consideration, as I understand it, international law nor the president's constitutional responsibility to conduct the foreign policy of the United States."

Baker told reporters the law would be applied on a case-by-case basis and all relevant U.S.

agencies would be consulted before a decision was taken to arrest any individual.

The White House said there would be no arrests abroad that had not been considered through an inter-agency process to ensure that the president takes into account the full range of foreign policy and international law considerations as well as the domestic law enforcement issues in any specific case.

The United States traditionally has worked with foreign governments to seek extradition of the fugitive.

In 1987 Lebanese hijacker Fawaz Yunis was apprehended abroad by the FBI, but agents were careful to lure him into international waters — onto a yacht. He was convicted in Washington for hijacking a Jordanian airliner.

In Colombia, Supreme Court Judge Rodolfo Garcia Ordonez said: "This is something I just can't understand. It looks like a violation of territorial rights."

In August Washington gave Colombia a list of 12 cocaine barons it wants extradited to the United States.

South Korea dissident group demands recall of U.S. envoy

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea's main dissident alliance Saturday demanded the recall of U.S. Ambassador Donald Gregg and said an attack on his residence by radical students was "the will of the people."

About 400 radical students armed with firebombs and rocks battled riot police today at Seoul's Sogang University in the second straight day of anti-American campus protests. "Yankee go home" protesters shouted.

Security was bolstered at all U.S. government facilities following the attack Friday on Gregg's official residence, national police headquarters said today. Riot police were assigned to the U.S. embassy, but officials declined to

give any details.

Chomminyon, an alliance of dissident groups, defended the storming of Gregg's home by six radical students, who hurled homemade bombs to distract the Korean guards and rampaged through the home, smashing artwork with iron bars.

Gregg and his wife Meg, who were awakened at dawn by the blast of bombs hurled by the attacking radicals, escaped unharm through a side entrance.

The six students were overpowered and arrested by riot police. Embassy officials said they would review the security system of the residence. Unlike the U.S. embassy, it is not guarded by U.S. marines but by Korean police.

After the attack, about 6,000 radical students took part in anti-U.S. protests on 26 campuses in seven cities Friday, police said.

The attack "reflected the will of the people," Chomminyon leaders claimed at a news conference, where they issued a statement calling for an end to close U.S. ties.

Chomminyon demanded the United States recall Gregg, saying he had helped to support military rule when he was Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) station chief in Seoul in the 1970s.

The alliance, represented at the news conference by several top leaders, also called for withdrawal of the 43,000 U.S. troops based in South Korea.

COLUMN

Film of spy novel on location in Moscow

MOSCOW (AP) — The British secret agent who met a Russian woman in front of the Ukraine hotel Friday bore a striking resemblance to James Bond, agent 007, licensed to kill. He was, in fact, Sean Connery, the Scottish actor who incarnated the 007 role in many films and who currently is in Moscow filming John Le Carré's latest spy novel and love story, "The Russia House."

The woman was Michelle Pfeiffer, his American co-star. During a shooting break, Connery said 007's reputation as a formidable foe of the KGB Russian secret service did not stand in the way of his coming to the Soviet Union to play the role of a book publisher recruited by British intelligence after he comes into contact with a Soviet scientist smuggling defence secrets. "Of course, the KGB has a dossier on me," Connery joked. "That's why they let me in." He said security checks were carried out in other countries before he was allowed to work, including the United States. "My dossier in Washington is even bigger than the KGB file," the 59-year-old veteran said with a smile.

Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	7	45	14 57 Clear
ATHENS	X	X	X X X
BAHRAIN	23	77	31 88 Clear
BANGKOK	26	77	34 83 Clear
BUENOS AIRES	18	64	20 88 Clear
CANBERRA	17	63	29 84 Clear
CHICAGO	05	41	27 81 Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	08	46	12 54 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	11	52	15 59 Cloudy
GENEVA	03	37	18 66 Clear
HONG KONG	23	73	28 82 Clear
ISTANBUL	10	50	20 88 Clear
LONDON	10	50	15 59 Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	16	61	24 78 Cloudy
MADRID	11	52	24 75 Clear
MECCA	25	77	43 108 Clear
MONTREAL	07	45	18 84 Cloudy
MOSCOW	03	37	05 41 Cloudy
NEW DELHI	22	72	36 87 Clear
NEW YORK	13	55	25 77 Cloudy
PARIS	08	48	17 63 Cloudy
ROME	07	45	23 73 Clear
SYDNEY	19	66	27 80 Clear
TOKYO	17	63	24 75 Clear
VIENNA	08	46	20 58 Clear

THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Herb Ettersson

ME By Olive Dunn

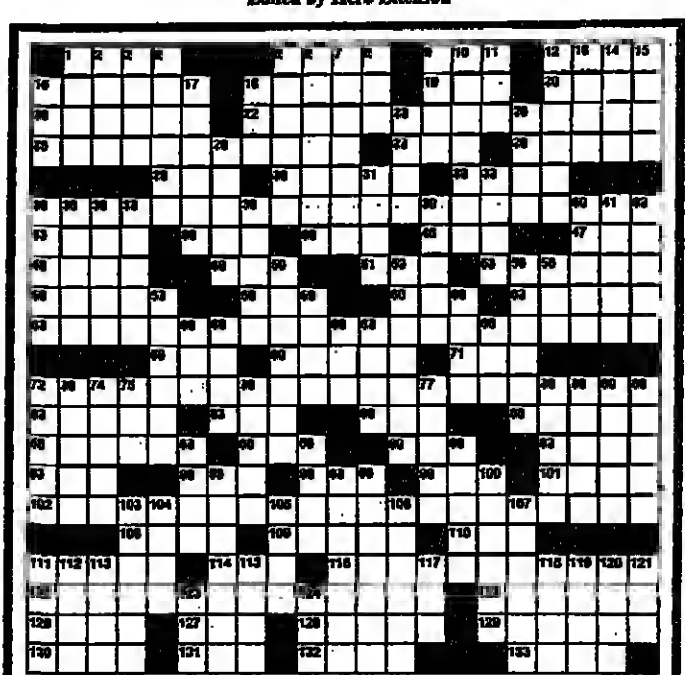
- ACROSS
- 1 First-class
 - 2 Peltis
 - 3 Iron dweller
 - 4 Again
 - 5 View
 - 6 Seafood fish
 - 7 Cuckoo
 - 8 Field rock
 - 9 Judd's
 - 10 Excursion
 - 11 Start of a verse
 - 12 Verse continued
 - 13 Meadow
 - 14 Tuff
 - 15 Eye layers
 - 16 Tuff
 - 17 Verse continued
 - 18 Serve the tea
 - 19 Homeless
 - 20 Reservoir
 - 21 Summer potabile
 - 22 "The game of morning"
 - 23 Collect
 - 24 "and home"
 - 25 Maccaree
 - 26 North
 - 27 Excursion
 - 28 FDR's Secretary
 - 29 of the interior
 - 30 WFF if agcy.
 - 31 Up the expense
 - 32 Cutting
 - 33 Panchization
 - 34 Verse continued
 - 35 Verse continued
 - 36 Trouble
 - 37 One-name bridge
 - 38 Cambridge school letters
 - 39 Verse continued
 - 40 WFF city
 - 41 Grade-to-be
 - 42 Homily: abbc.
 - 43 Best of verse
 - 44 Verse continued
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 - 69 Verse continued
 - 70 Verse continued

- DOWN
- 1 Wine center
 - 2 Rappaport
 - 3 Lack
 - 4 Seafood fish
 - 5 Cuckoo
 - 6 Field rock
 - 7 Judd's
 - 8 Excursion
 - 9 Start of a verse
 - 10 Verse continued
 - 11 Meadow
 - 12 Tuff
 - 13 Eye layers
 - 14 Tuff
 - 15 Verse continued
 - 16 Serve the tea
 - 17 Homeless
 - 18 Reservoir
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Diagramless 17 X 17, by Craig Schatz

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- Last Week's Cryptograms
1. Fascist shopper became bewildered while trying to find suit glamorous enough for his campy taste.
 2. How can killers make their way on slushy mountain trails? Casually.
 3. Our huge, inherited gifts are so often curdled.
 4. Gay anarchy one of most beautiful flowers growing from a bulb.